FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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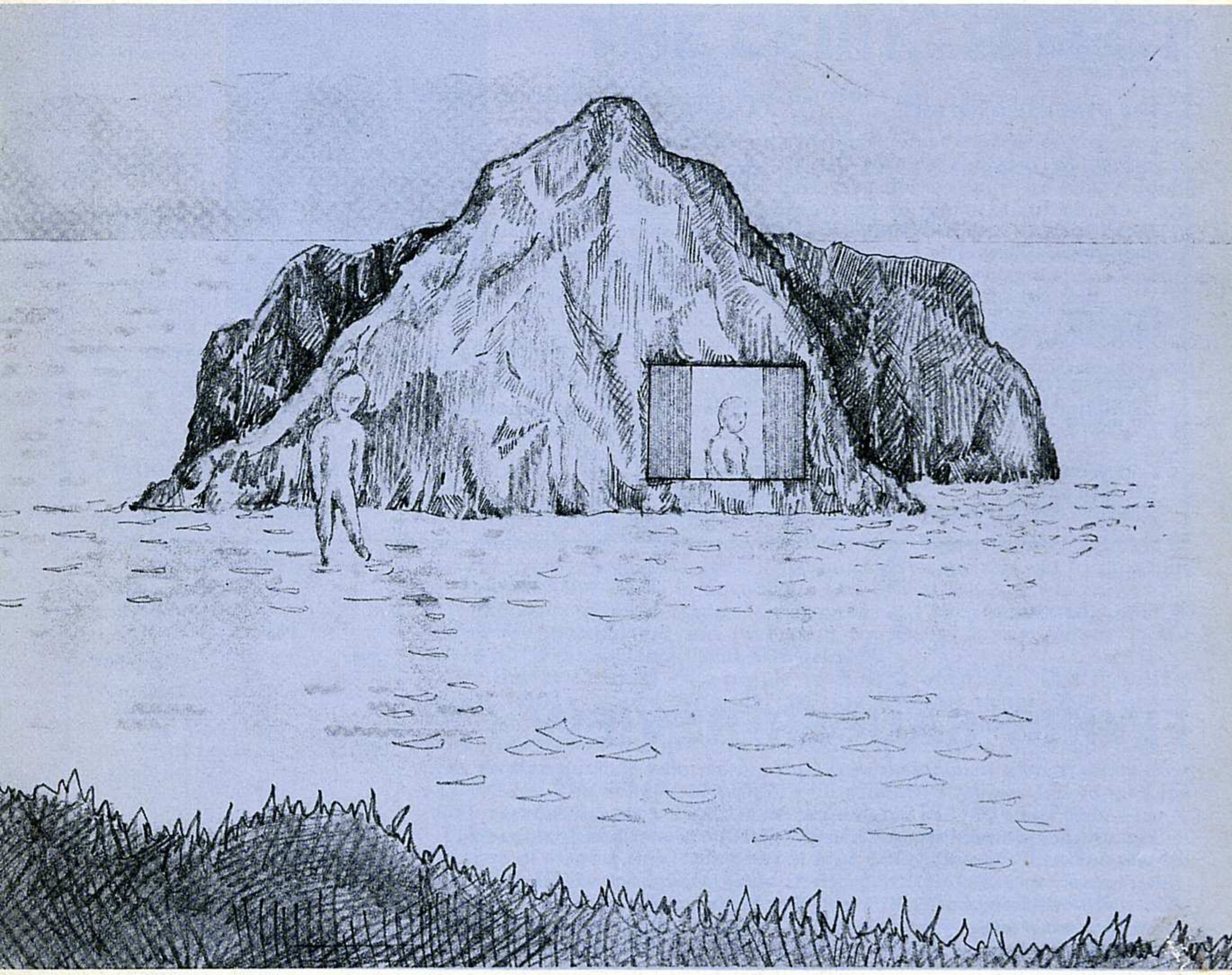
Volume 23, No. 6 70p



Artist's impression of the climax of a bizarre incident reported from Dyfed, West Wales

STACK ROCKS HUMANOIDS

See page 7

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

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THE CEIIIK EFFECT

WE have heard it suggested that the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* will prove to be only a mixed blessing as far as serious UFO research is concerned; that, in spite of the traumas experienced by some of the witnesses in the story, the overall picture conjured up is one of sweetness and light. Now that we have seen the movie, there is little doubt that it is a projection, loud, vigorous and exaggerated, of much of the UFO phenomenon; that the story line is one of the final tracking down of the objects culminating in contact; that the technical wizardry and special effects – which are stupendous – have produced something which is science fictional rather than ufological, with seemingly benevolent entities.

However, any speculation that the film will encourage euphoria and cultism could be premature, and we have good reason to believe that the *real* reports will be little changed in character. The only difference could be one of *quantity*.

As many readers will recall, the *Daily Express* recently serialised the story of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and parallel to that ran a series of articles on the subject. Furthermore, at the drop of a hat they opened a UFO Bureau where readers' reports would be submitted to "experts." As FSR had collaborated with feature writer Geoffrey Levy in the provision of source material we felt obliged to ask him who were their experts. This, it was admitted, was a "good question." We also suggested that we should be accorded some recognition for the assistance given and this was forthcoming on February 27, 1978, in an oblique sort of way when it was announced that the *Daily Express* readers' reports that had been submitted would be shared for investigation and evaluation by *Flying Saucer Review* "...the doyen of UFO magazines," and BUFORA.

We quickly learned that people react well when they find that UFO reports can be treated seriously, and the response to the *Daily Express* UFO Bureau idea would appear to support the contention that when, heretofore, UFO witnesses have been publicly ridiculed there have been an even greater number who, seeing this, have maintained silence about their experiences. The number of people who submitted reports had topped the 6000 mark by February 27, 1978.

The content and quality of this mass of reports has not been sampled at the time of writing this leader, but if Miss Jenny Randles' experience with that other UFO-conscious national newspaper, *The Sun*, is a reliable guide, then we are likely to be staggered by what we find. At the close of *The Sun's* series of articles by Miss Sue Freeman – who had interviewed FSR's editor and borrowed material, and had also interviewed Jenny Randles – the address of NUFON (which is also that of UFOIN) was published. Miss Randles received hundreds of letters, the bulk of them sober and serious. At least 30% of these reported encounters have a high rating of strangeness. Several of them are CEIII cases, and all of this bodes well for the content of *Flying Saucer Review* for many months to come.

In this way the big movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (CEIIIK), because it has been conceived in a manner sympathetic to the sometimes

harrowing experiences of UFO witnesses, plays a valuable albeit indirect part in encouraging thousands of witnesses to talk freely about their own UFO experiences. Even before Steven Spielberg's masterpiece was released in Britain, its approach had commended itself to the newspapers concerned, and they followed the line in their own special ways – and no doubt were well aware of the possible effect on their circulation figures. And now we have heard it admitted in the office of the *Daily Express* that the response has been an "eye-opener" for them.

Naturally this all goes to confirm a fact already crystallising for us as a result of the splendid success of the UFO Investigators Network (UFOIN), something we have believed for a very long while, and that is that Britain could well have experienced UFO events and waves with at least as great a frequency as anywhere else in the world. No longer will we be seen as one of the backwaters of the world in terms of incidence of UFO reports, but rather as a country where the bulk of the witnesses have been successfully repressed by an innate fear of ridicule.

So whatever one thinks of the effect of "CEIIIK," it certainly appears to have bestowed sizeable blessings on ufology, if only by heightening interest and increasing public awareness of the few who for so long have been voices crying in the wilderness.

Again, let us not forget that ufology survived the Condon attempted kiss of death; as long as it maintains its guard it should be able to survive, and even benefit from, the CEIIIK embrace. As John Keel says: things will never be the same again.

REMARKABLE ENCOUNTER AT STONEHENGE

Peter Warrington

Our contributor, Chairman of Manchester UFO Research Association and a founder member of UFOIN, prepared this preliminary report for ***Flying Saucer Review*** on March 22, 1978. The incident, reported to, and due for investigation by UFOIN, was also reported to the ***Daily Express*** "UFO Bureau."
—EDITOR

IN October 1977 two families from Cheshire made the journey to Salisbury Plain in search of a few days' holiday and relaxation. What they found was a graphic and disturbing view of the UFO phenomenon. The two families were good friends, a bond cemented by the fact they were to become the witnesses to one of the most significant UFO events in Britain for many years. In qualification of that I can state that the case includes electro-magentic effects on a portable television and two childrens' compasses, possible physiological effect in the form of a body rash on one witness, the sighting of a slug-like object the size of a cow which disappeared suddenly, sightings of golden spheres on three consecutive evenings and more than three minutes of colour film to support the sightings of the spherical objects.

Full details began to come to light while I was researching material for a television programme by the Granada TV, which is based in Manchester. Although the case was known for a while beforehand its true value was not realised by the local group in the area concerned. The first opportunity to view the film was taken quickly and a meeting was arranged between three of the witnesses, a researcher from Granada TV, Miss Jenny Randles and myself.

The witnesses are two families, parents and two children, making six people in all. (The name and addresses of all are withheld for the present.) The party had travelled to Stonehenge with the intention of "getting away from it all," to show the children Stonehenge, and to enable one of the fathers to make a short amateur film about the monument and its mystique. They pitched camp close to Stonehenge on some common land, using a caravan type vehicle and a single tent.

At dusk on the second day, October 17, 1977, the group were busy when someone noticed that the portable television had "gone dead," and nobody could understand this as the battery had been fully charged specially for the holiday. The television set showed no signs of functioning. Minutes later they were to see the first of many golden spherical objects. The object meandered about in a closely defined area of sky centred about half a mile away from the camp site. Sometimes just a single object, at other times three or four (even seven on one or two occasions). The objects sometimes sped into the area from the horizon and sometimes simply appeared out of thin air. They likewise sped off to the horizon, climbed vertically into the sky high above, or else disappeared by dissolving out of view. It is fortuitous that the amateur cameraman was able to capture some of the objects on film. After all the objects had gone from view the TV set apparently returned to normal.

The third evening provided a similar series of events, interference with the television, sightings of similar objects, and filming. Again on the fourth evening similar events. The number and motion of the objects is not yet clear in respect of how many and on which evenings; these details will be clarified during the investigation proper.

The factors of potential interest are that six witnesses saw and, using two different film stocks, filmed UFOs on three consecutive evenings. There

(Continued on page 12)

HUMANOID ENCOUNTER AT RAINFORD

Jenny Randles

This UFOIN report has been prepared following considerable work by Stephen Balon, an investigator for the long-standing Lancashire group DIGAP. The assistance of Bill Skellon, also of DIGAP, and Tony Pace, of BUFORA, is gratefully acknowledged in parts of the investigation. Stephen Balon has now joined the UFOIN team.

THIS incident involves the encounter of four young men with a strange humanoid figure on an isolated road near Rainford, Merseyside. Although there was no actual UFO sighting at the time, the case is of special interest for several reasons.

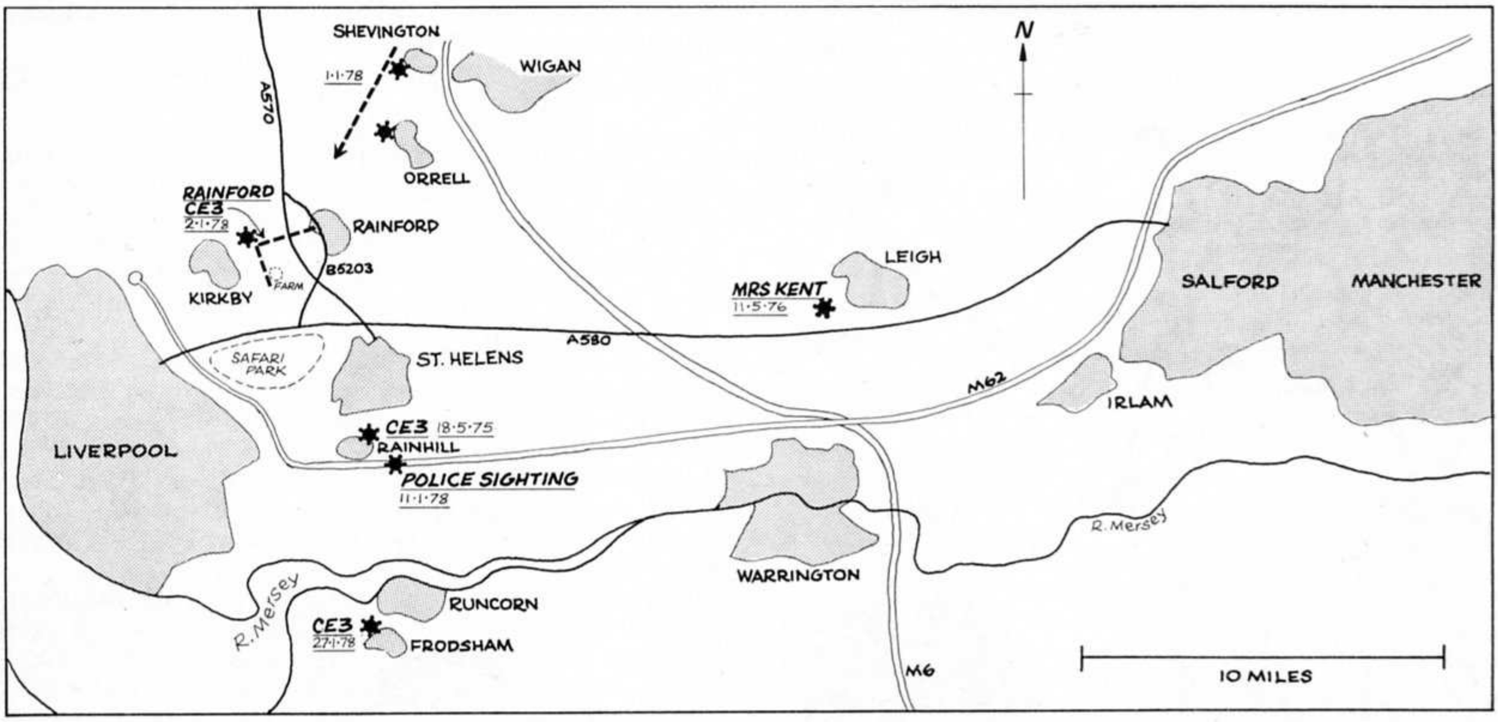
First, the entity described corresponds closely with several seen in direct association with the UFO phenomenon. Secondly, reports were received of UFO activity in the immediate area just 46 hours previous to the encounter and, thirdly, the Merseyside/South Lancashire/North Cheshire region became the focus for an important "flap" immediately following this incident.

The locality

The events took place on an old coach road in Merseyside, midway between the villages of Rainford and Kirkby (just a few miles north east of the city of Liverpool). In fact the exact location is precisely on the borders of the three counties: Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

The area is desolate, with few signs of human habitation save one or two farms. It is mostly open mossland, known by several names including Kirkby Moss. It is situated two and a half miles north west of the town of St. Helens, and the road itself runs almost due north to south into the estates of the Knowsley Safari Park, which is famous for its reservation of wild animals.

The coach road is little used and is quite narrow, being lined by trees along its perfectly straight route. There are muddy ditches to the sides, and then grass and scrubland, and there are no lights of any type along its course.



NORTHERN UFO NETWORK – ANNUAL CONFERENCE

To be held in Scunthorpe, South Humberside, on June 24th, 1978. The theme will be "CLOSE ENCOUNTERS" with an accent on the 'new' ufology. Admission (subject to revision) **50p**

Details from: **NIGEL WATSON, 1 Angerstein Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside, DN17 2LZ**

The incident

Four young men in their early twenties had been out for the evening of January 2, 1978, and were returning from the direction of Rainford to the Liverpool area where they live. The men were Geoff Hales (who was driving), Stephen Simpson, Glynn Mathews and Keith Thomas. They had stopped on the way home for a drink, but this was by no means enough to have impaired their judgement, and in fact the police were able to confirm that the men were not in any way intoxicated.

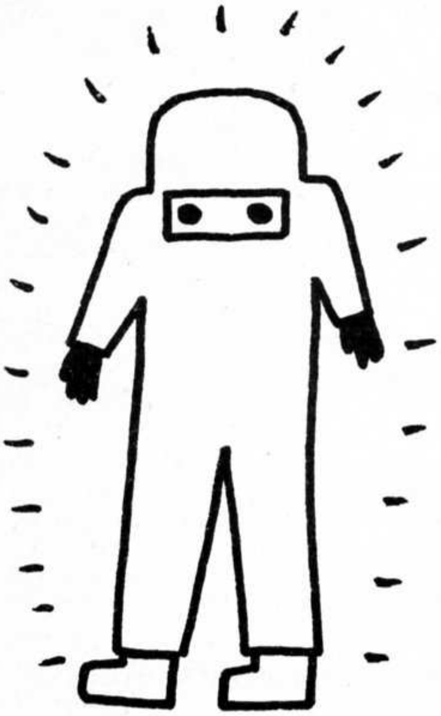
The time was about 11.15 p.m. as they drove out of Rainford on the B 5203 road. They turned left on to the old coach road, crossing the A 570 and proceeding for about a mile through open countryside, heading West South West.

At a spot that we have been able to locate as OS Reference SJ 456007 they came to a crossroads. To follow their scheduled route towards the A 580 they should have turned left at this point. In fact they turned right, which in the conditions prevailing was a very easy mistake to make, since the surroundings are featureless and are somewhat similar in all directions. Geoff, the driver, quickly realised his error and braked sharply. The car was only travelling at about 30 m.p.h., but the road surface was slightly greasy and the back wheels skidded. The car moved over on to the verge, and then into the muddy ditch where it was stopped (apparently by normal means).

Geoff was the first to see the figure, illuminated in the beams of the headlights. It was standing in the middle of the road at an estimated distance of 25 feet from them.

The entity

All the witnesses were consistent in their descriptions of what they saw. There were slight discrepancies



THE RAINFORD HUMANOID

Object seen at Rainhill 11 Jan.'78 by PCs Lowe and Roberts

Red object seen at Shevington 1 Jan.'78

over minor details, such as height (although all agreed that this was at least 6' 6" and possibly as much as 7'), but in general nothing more than one might expect.

It seems the entity was basically humanoid, and was clad in a one piece suit of a flourescent white colour. In fact the suit was said to glow. There were white boots, which were quite short, and a rounded helmet which had no visible protrusions or openings. There was no indication of facial features, and no sign of a joint between the head and body parts of the suit.

The body was very broad – much broader than one would normally expect for a man, and the other unusual feature was the description of the arms. These were *very* short and in fact, some estimates were that they were only about 8 inches long. The men are not certain what the hands were like. They were darker than the rest of the body, but it is not clear whether there were gloves on them or not. They did give the impression of claws but, unlike the newspaper accounts which stated that the figure did have claws, the witnesses do not claim this with any certainty.

The only other feature of the entity was a rectangular box on its chest, in the middle portion directly underneath the head. This stood out in relief as if raised from the body, and had on it two red lights which flashed on and off in rapid alternation.

The basic description does not conform with any clothing or gear used by experimental workers, or other such persons, by some strange circumstances, who might have been in this remote spot. In any event the men are certain of the "non human" features that the figure seemed to possess.

After effects

As one might expect the men were somewhat unnerved by this experience and their first thoughts were to "get the hell out of there." Geoff attempted to get the car into reverse gear and back out. As he was doing so the figure took three or four steps in their direction, appearing both to be hesitant, and as surprised and frightened as they were.

Now Geoff Hales is an asthmatic and the symptoms of this illness can be brought on suddenly by fright, and it was when the creature moved forward that he had an attack. There followed a frantic struggle inside the vehicle to get them away from the scene. Eventually they did manage to get away and drove off down the road which they should have taken originally.

In all the duration of the sighting of the entity was about 20 seconds, and as they drove off along the path the witnesses were terrified.

The first habitation they came to was Brown Birch Farm. Here they stopped and, despite the late hour, rushed to the farmhouse and urgently awoke the farmer. Seeing their state of extreme distress, and the unhappy physical condition of Geoff Hales he telephoned the Kirkby Police, who came round immediately.

The farmer commented to Stephen Balon when he was interviewed: "Those lads were really scared

when they called. They were not messing about."

Three policemen arrived at the farmhouse, and went back with Stephen Simpson to the spot. One of the officers was Pc. McCluskie. He told the investigators that "There was no doubt they were scared, both visibly and physically. I think they definitely saw something. The lad who was asthmatic was sat in the back of the car when we arrived. His knees were shaking, he was white and he couldn't speak properly. When we got to the spot I took the road to the right and I locked my car doors. I wouldn't have gone there on my own without a car radio."

The police searched the area for over half an hour, but this was obviously quite difficult in the dark. Nothing at all was found. Stephen Balon returned a few days later and looked at the area with the witnesses. Nothing was found and no unusual readings were recorded on a geiger counter.

UFO activity in the area

This region has by no means been devoid of UFO activity. Indeed two highly interesting CE-III events have happened in fairly close proximity to the spot within the past three years.

On May 18, 1975, three witnesses at Rainhill, Merseyside (about 5 miles to the south) reported the landing of a UFO in a copse of trees.[1] The object looked like three tennis balls in a triangular formation. On searching the scene of the incident some unusual footprints were found which led up to a duck pond. They were square shaped with no instep, measuring 14 inches by 6 inches, and were heavily indented. The impression gained was that they were made by a large and heavy figure which was apparently put into the environment suddenly, and taken out just as suddenly (the steps began and ended quite clearly in the middle of a large patch of muddy ground).

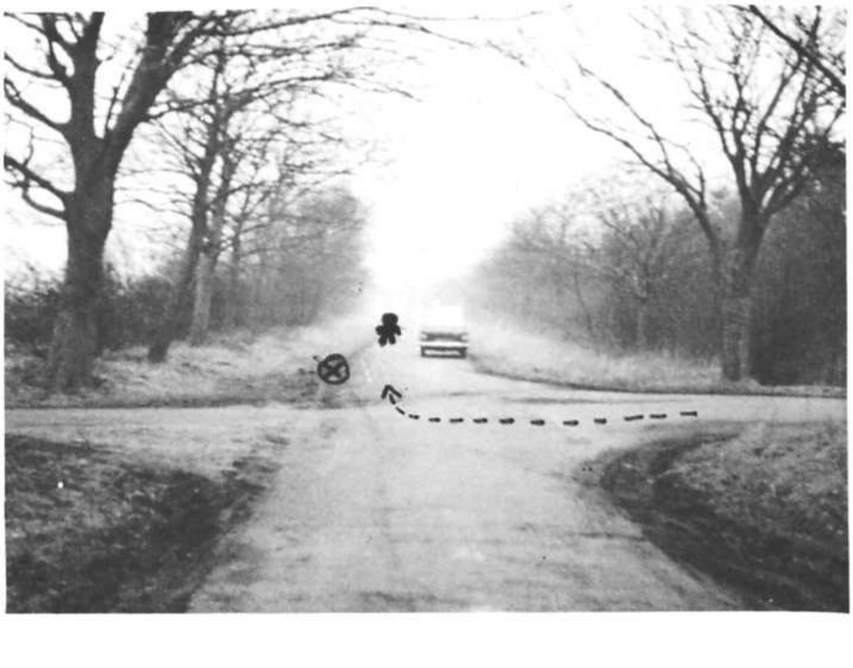
Facing west: to the left the road which should have been taken. Arrowed, the turning accidentally taken

Then on May 11, 1976 came the encounter of Mrs. Kent at Higher Fold, Greater Manchester,[2] when she observed a figure in a silvery suit beside a spherical UFO. Higher Fold is about nine miles east of Rainford.

These correlations are interesting, if not important. However, it was soon to be discovered that the police had received independently, several reports of something seen even closer to Rainford on the day before the four men encountered the humanoid.

Left: **South, beyond the crossroads is the road which should have been taken. The farm is a quarter of a mile from the crossroads. Stephen Simpson looks at the skid marks.**

Below: **Car route arrowed, before skidding to a halt at spot indicated. Entity drawn in at point where seen from the car.**



The principal set of witnesses for this report were in Shevington, Greater Manchester, a village close to Wigan and about three miles north east of Rainford. They have requested anonymity, but consist of a husband and wife, their lodger, and a neighbour who had all been watching TV on New Year's Eve. The programme finished at about 1.45 a.m. on January 1st, and it was a cold moonlit night.

The object was described as a circular disc of light, which was bright red in colour, with a bluish tinge to it, and which gave a fuzzy purple effect overall. It was lighter on the underside and gave the appearance of being lit from within. It illuminated the surroundings and was clearly seen as a glow even when it went behind houses.

The disc was very large (about ten inch diameter at arm's length!) and was extremely low (described as roof-top height). Its speed was quite slow, somewhat reminiscent of a helicopter, but in appearance totally different, and with absolutely no sound. The witnesses kept it in view for between three or four minutes as it moved towards the South South West.

The course that the object was travelling would have taken it directly towards Rainford, which is of course very interesting. On this course it would pass close to the village of Orrell (about two miles north east of Rainford) and it was from here that several more witnesses came forward to the police and reported seeing a red cigar shape moving South West. These reports were all independent, and they have never been published in any form. Whether or not they bear any relation to the Rainford encounter the following day is, of course, open to question.

Following the publication of the Rainford encounter in the national press (where quite typically the men's stories were twisted with facetious comments about them having seen a 'Cyberman'*) another most interesting event was brought to the notice of investigators.

This sighting involved two policemen, Pcs Lowe and Roberts, from the Prescot Division. On January 11, 1978, at 4.45 p.m. they were on traffic patrol on the M62 motorway near Rainhill (remember the 1975 sighting mentioned earlier). They saw a brilliant white light in the northern sky hovering over Bold Power Station. After some ten seconds this light began to pulsate, and then moved across the sky at a fantastic speed to hover in the south over Fiddlers Ferry Power Station. Here it began to pulsate again after about two seconds and was clearly seen as an inverted 'T' shape which glowed very brightly. After a total observation time of about twenty seconds the UFO streaked away, vertically, reduced to a pinpoint of light which vanished within a second or so.

This report was investigated by Peter Hough of the Manchester UFO Research Association, working with Arthur Tomlinson of DIGAP. Obviously it seems unlikely that it should be just coincidence that the light should appear over *both* power stations in the area.

It would seem that something very odd took place during these weeks in this small area and indeed, as I write this, another most interesting close encounter of the third kind from the area has been reported (this time involving entities and UFO), and is the subject of a detailed investigation by UFOIN. This took place at Frodsham on January 27, 1978.

Conclusions

There seems little doubt that the four men saw something very unusual which caused them great fright. The circumstantial evidence points to the possibility that this was indeed an encounter with a UFO occupant, although we must bear other considerations in mind.

It is not totally impossible that the men were subjected to a hoax by someone who dressed up in a suit. However, bearing in mind the hour and remoteness of the location the sense of any such a hoax seems very hard to imagine. Certainly the police view this as only a remote possibility and, frankly, are very puzzled by what the witnesses saw. They only know that they saw something.

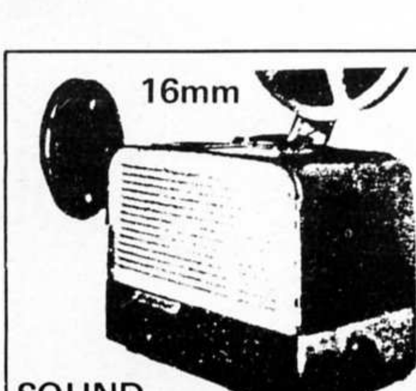
Investigations by ufologists and police have not uncovered any plausible explanation for these events, and nobody has come forward to admit that they were responsible for some bizzare experiment or hoax.

Quite clearly, the description *may* relate to a UFO occupant — but all we can do at the present moment is term the case unidentified and leave the matter open.

References:

* (p.4) Cyberman were fictional creatures in a *Doctor Who* BBC television series.

1. 'Did a UFO land at Rainhill?' Randles, J. BUFORA Journal Sept/Oct. 1975.
2. FSR Vol.22, No. 3 p. 27 (1976 series)



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STACK ROCKS HUMANOID DISPLAY

Randall Jones Pugh

Our contributor, a retired veterinary surgeon, is a BUFORA investigator who lives near Haverfordwest in West Wales. He is also a member of UFOIN

THE egregious saga of Ripperston Farm, Dale, Dyfed and its environs continues unabated, for on Sunday October 30, 1977, at around 15.00 hours, Mrs. Pauline Coombes, her mother Mrs. Grycz, and her four children were returning to the farm on a day which was warm and sunny. Engrossed in conversation with her daughter Mrs. Grycz suddenly pointed upwards and exclaimed "What on earth is that?"

Mrs. Coombes stopped the car, both women and the children got out, and watched what they described as a "round flat disc, whitish in colour," move across the sky in a seawards direction. It was, as Mrs. Coombes emphasised, difficult to estimate the altitude of the object, which she ultimately concluded must have been around 200 feet, and her considered opinion was that it was travelling "at the speed of a motor-boat going fast across the bay," which might suggest something in the region of 20-30 m.p.h.

However, both women watched the disc gradually descend to the height of the nearby Stack Rocks and then, without altering speed, literally "crash" into the side of the rocky islet itself, into which it completely disapppeared. It was at this point that Mrs. Coombes insisted that both she and her mother fully expected to see some sort of explosion, and to hear the expected noise of the crash, but both women were quite adamant that "it just disappeared into the rock."

She then reiterated how she and her mother were so intrigued that they decided to investigate at a much closer range, so in company with the children, the two women crossed two small fields, which brought them literally to the water's edge. From where they were standing on the headland sloping down to the edge of the sea, they acquired a perfect view of the side of the little islet facing the mainland, since the stretch of water separating the Stack Rocks from the peninsular head at this point is only some 400 yds wide.

The young farmer's wife went on to describe that as she and her mother approached the sea, they could see "two men moving about on the rock," and their immediate reaction was that they were witnessing two skin-divers going about their business in the deep waters around the Stacks.

Both women, however, soon realised that whilst the two figures had the requisite number of arms, legs and feet, their heads appeared to be very elongated, and far larger than the average human head. Indeed, Mrs. Coombes described the heads as being "rectangular in shape with the corners rounded off..." When I queried her as to whether or not she was quite convinced that they were not skin-divers or fishermen, Mrs. Coombes assured me that whilst "they were human in shape, they were definitely not human beings."

For some 15 minutes both women watched entranced as the silver-clad humanoids moved about on the uneven surface of the Stack Rocks. At this juncture it is necessary to point out that the Stack Rocks rise abruptly out of the sea to a height of some 80-100 feet, and that the sides of the rock face themselves are pitted and uneven, so that the average human being would have to move extremely carefully in finding the foot and hand purchase if he were not to fall into the sea.

As the little crowd of people watched, Mrs. Coombes described how they could see "a door opening and shutting fairly rapidly on the right hand side (the Broad Haven side) of the rock face." There appeared to be "a shimmering haze around the door(s)" which seemed to be of a size commensurate with that of the ordinary household door, but the interior of the rocky space behind was "quite black."

As the doors opened and closed, much as would the sliding doors of a serving hatch in a restaurant, the family saw a silvery clad humanoid "walking up and down steps." This is indicative of the motion of this particular individual, since whilst no "steps" as such were actually visible, the motion of the figure was such that first the head, then the shoulders and chest would appear, up to about waist high, when the motion would cease and the figure would descend again.

The figure to the left of the Stack Rocks was also not entirely inactive, as it walked about "with a normal gait as though walking on a flat surface." This particular figure, as described in Mrs. Coombes' taped conversation, seems literally to have "walked upon the water," or at least, at water level, though it seems to have given the impression of having blended with the very consistence of the rock surface itself. This figure, which was kept under strict observation though possibly to a lesser extent than was the "opening—shutting" door sequence, with its mechanistic climb-up go-down companion, eventually disappeared behind the left (seawards) side of the Stack Rocks. Ultimately the doors and the energetic humanoid abruptly vanished.

On December 1, 1977, in company with Mr. David Allen of the B.B.C., I interviewed Mrs. Coombes at Ripperston Farm, and it will doubtless be appreciated that a recitation of such a grotesque series of "behavioural" events was indeed recited not without certain misgivings and reservations. However, as Mrs. Coombes stated, she could not fathom out why she decided to take that particular route.

"For some reason or other," she affirmed, "I decided to come down Broadmoor Way," when normally, and indeed, routinely, she takes the main road down to Ripperston Farm itself. The implications of this statement must be taken within the context of the whole "paranormal" listing of the farm itself, and the Coombes family in particular, because I am utterly convinced that if anyone has a deep psychic ability to see things not normally visible to other people, that person must be Mrs. Coombes.

This episode is of course just one small facet of the riddle which Ripperston Farm itself projects. Indeed, one might well have mental reservations as to the veracity of the witnesses to themselves in view of the "strangeness" quality of the objects seen, were it not for the fact that when the two women and the children had barely entered their home, the telephone rang and a neighbour, a woman who lives in Broad Haven itself in a position directly opposite the Stack Rocks, queried whether any member of the family had "seen figures on the Stack Rocks."

Quietly and efficiently Mrs. Coombes and the children were questioned and probed by Mr. David Allen, who is an experienced and somewhat sceptical B.B.C. news reporter. We could not shake her testimony and indeed Mrs. Coombes emphasised that she was not at all bothered by the sighting, in view of her other UFO experiences, she felt if anything "quite excited." Indeed, to silence any would-be critics Mrs. Pauline Coombes is prepared to take any scientific test to prove that the incidents were not just imagination."

[*In addition to the foregoing, the author added a note about another sighting*—EDITOR]

Personal close encounter

At about 10.30 p.m. on an evening in July, 1977 prior to "retiring" I pulled aside the curtain of my bedroom window which overlooks St. Brides Bay, Pembrokeshire, and saw that a fairly thick sea-mist was coming in. Across the main road, some 30 feet wide lies the Pembrokeshire Park, and it was in a field directly opposite my window that I saw a crescent shaped object with a pipe-like stem sticking upwards for a distance of some 3 feet. In spite of the near-dark conditions, I could see the outline of what looked like the upper half of a "dome" – the right hand side being obscured by sea-mist. However as soon as I had pulled aside the curtain and allowed the bedroom light to show, the object took off vertically at a very fast rate. The "tube", which to me appeared to be of glass or plastic, flashed a very bright red light three times, and so bright was the light that I could perceive the filaments in the "tube" – which looked like those seen in an ordinary electric light bulb – quite distinctly. The "thing" took off vertically, very quickly, but I was able to count three distinct "flashes" at perhaps one second intervals, the interior pulsating red light showing up the "filaments" vividly.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEXT ISSUE OF FLYING SAUCER REVIEW Vol. 24. No. 1

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by Andrew Collins

Bent Spoons or Bent Reality?
Philip Creighton

UFO Landings in Estonia
Juri Lina

Did Humanoids kill these men?
F. W. Holiday

UFO Physics – Part 2
Jan Heering

And now ... Italy: A problem for the Minister of Defence?
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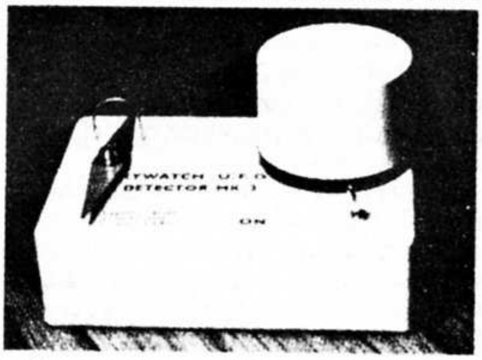

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A "FLYING" HUMANOID IN PUERTO RICO

Sebastian Robiou Lamarche

Translation from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

BETWEEN 8.30 and 9.00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 1977, Senor Adrian de Olmos Ordonez, aged 42, of the town of Quebradillas, Puerto Rico, observed the extraordinary spectacle of a 3½ ft. humanoid from the balcony of his house where he was sitting.

The affair was widely reported on the following day by the main radio channels and the local newspaper, *El Vocero*. On the following Saturday, July 16, I managed to have a lengthy interview with the witness and with his neighbours who had seen the later stages of the phenomenon. I also examined the terrain where the sighting had taken place. In these investigations I was accompanied by my friend Sr. Jorge Martin who, being himself a competent artist, was able to make sketches to accompany the statements given by the principal witness. Here is the gist of Sr. Adrian de Olmos' statement to me about his sighting:—

"At around 8.30 to 9.00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, I was taking a rest and enjoying the evening air on my balcony, when suddenly I saw something emerge from the grounds of the farm opposite my house. It was a small figure, which stepped out from the darkness and passed under the barbed wire fence. My first thought was that it must be some child or other playing about over there... but then I perceived, from the way it was dressed, that it was a very strange being indeed, and I realized that the situation would have to be handled with caution.

"The being was walking in quite normal fashion towards the street lamp, the public street-lighting standard in front of my house. At that point I called out to my daughter, Irasema. The being was still moving cautiously towards the mercury lamp standard. I told Irasema to bring me a pencil and paper so that I might try to make a sketch of him... and I told her to turn on the light in the living room, but she made a mistake, as the switch is a double one, and she turned on the outside balcony light instead. The 'creature' had by then almost got to the lamp standard, but when it saw the light turned on it took fright. I saw it looking upwards at the street lamp, and my personal opinion is that it was seeking something, energy, or electricity, or something like that, for it was headed straight towards the lamp standard. In its right hand it was carrying a small shiny object. The light from our house was reflected off the glass of the creature's helmet, which shone with a tremendous brightness.

"Then, the minute the balcony light went on, I saw the creature run back instantly towards the barbed wire fence. It passed under the wire, and then stopped... It placed its hands on the front part of its belt, and then a thing which it had on its back, like a rucksack, lit up, and emitted a sound like the noise of an electric drill... And then it rose up into the air, and made off towards the trees.

"By that time the neighbours and members of my family were appearing on the scene, and for about ten minutes they all saw lights moving from tree to tree on the farm, until finally they vanished from sight."

Details of the humanoid

Sr. Adrian said the strange creature was about 3½ feet high. As described in his statement, he saw it emerge from the darkness on the farm land opposite the house. The humanoid bent down and passed under the barbed wire fence and made straight towards the street lamp standard, "walking normally, like a child." The proportions of its body were normal, except that, as he noted, its arms appeared to be relatively short. The entire body was covered in a green garment which seemed to be "filled with air," because it did not cling closely to the body. The head was covered by a helmet, of metallic appearance, which terminated at the top in a sort of antenna, "with a little light or flame at its tip." From each side of the helmet (which was of a lighter shade of green than the clothing) "there were things sticking out that seemed like pointed ears." The helmet was joined on to the clothing by a dark band at the level of the neck. It had some sort of glass in the front of it, running down from the forehead to the neck, and this glass reflected the light from the street lamp so vividly that it made it impossible for the witness to see the creature's face.

The humanoid was approaching the lamp standard cautiously, and had now reached a point some ten feet from it, and some thirty feet or so from where the witness was sitting. The witness was able to note that the strange being was holding in its right hand something "of the size of a matchbox, shining, and with a sharp point to it." And, all the while, the creature was looking up fixedly at the street lamp. This behaviour led the witness to think that the humanoid wanted in some fashion or other to test or to take the electrical current.

It was at this point that the witness's daughter, Irasema de Olmos Padin, aged 16, accidentally switched on the balcony light from inside the house. Thereupon, the humanoid "ran off in the direction from which he had come", passed under the barbed

wire fence, and then halted, with his back towards the witness. The latter was thus able to note that the humanoid had, on his back, like a knap-sack, "a little box, fastened with two straps," and that he "had a tail, which did not reach as far as the ground." (See sketch.)

The strange being at once put his hands "to his belt, to the thick belt which he was wearing," and at once "two red lights and two blue lights," which seemed to be rotating, lit up the box on his back. Between these two pairs of lights, the box "had an opening, or something of that sort." When these lights came on, "two other beams of light, pointing downwards," appeared from the under-part of the box. The witness described these beams of light as of the same colour as the sparks one sees in welding. Simultaneously, he heard a thin humming noise, "like the sound of a small electrical drill."

Immediately after that, the humanoid rose into the air and moved away towards the nearest trees on the farm opposite, travelling at a height which witness estimated at around ten or twelve feet. It was at this point that the witness's daughter came out on to the balcony and saw the lights of the presumed propulsive apparatus of the entity. Immediately afterwards, the witness's wife and son, Sr. Dominga Padin de Olmos and Rafael Edgardo de Olmos, also came out of the house.

Left: The humanoid, based on a sketch by Sr. Adrian de Olmos

Additional details

As we gathered during our investigation, the humanoid moved off horizontally, "like superman" and "with his tail raised," for a distance of some 420 ft. or so to the nearest trees on the farm. By that time a group of the neighbours had already gathered and were listening to Sr. Adrian de Olmos. These neighbours included the following ten people: Marvel Gonzalez, Daniela Gonzalez, Josefina Gonzalez, Luis Cortes, Carlos Cortes, Iris Cortes, Mercedes Medina de Leon, Minerva Lugo, Betsaide Lugo, and Ivi Mena Lugo.

For the next ten minutes or so all these witnesses watched the lights on the box on the back of the creature "leaping from tre to tree", and at times descending to ground-level. Sr. Adrian de Omos· added that they were also able to see "... second lot of lights, doing the same thing," from which he concluded that there had been another creature, "helping the first one," for in fact he had had the impression, when the lights came on on the back of the first creature, at a distance of some 40 ft. or so from him, that "the apparatus on the creature's back was not working quite right."

Finally the phenomenon was all over, and the lights vanished. But not before the residents of the whole neighbourhood had noticed that the cattle on the farm were "acting as though crazy," dashing to and fro and bellowing. A number of dogs in the neighbourhood, including the main witness's own bitch, Luly, were also barking frenziedly in the direction of the farm, where all lay shrouded in darkness.

Shortly after this two Police patrolmen, Johnny Ramos and William Castro, arrived on the scene. This was but the first of a whole series of visits by State Police which followed. So vast was the excitement and panic in the neighbourhood that many mothers were afraid "lest their children might be carried off." The Police therefore posted guards, who remained on duty until the dawn came.

Next day, the news of the affair spread with lightning speed, and the scene was invaded by hundreds of curiosity-seekers, including most of the pupils from the local school. On the same day, various radio stations reported the affair, and the local newspaper, *El Vocero*, carried a report of it on the following Friday, July 15. The local Police authorities have made an extensive investigation, but have nevertheless issued no explanation for the affair.

Duration of the sighting

According to Sr. Adrian de Olmos, his close view of the humanoid lasted for approximately one

minute. He was able to note such details as that the strange creature "had only four fingers on each hand," and "had feet like the feet of a duck." That he was able to note such striking details as these, in so weird a situation, may in part be attributable to the fact that Sr. Adrian is himself very keen on sketching, and has highly developed powers of observation.

In the course of our own enquiries we ascertained that Sr. Adrian is a serious and well-respected and hard-working person, held in high regard by all the neighbours. He is a businessman, engaged in the distribution of cattle feed throughout the north-western area of the Island. He had never before taken the slightest interest in the UFO Phenomenon, or in any related subjects. But, he told us, "Now I believe in these things, and I want to do some reading about them."

Following upon the sighting, he suffered a gastric disturbance for two days, being scarcely able to eat anything, and was nervy and edgy, especially towards his wife, as she herself confirmed to us.

The next day, his son, Rafael Edgardo, aged 15, found a footprint, presumed to have been left by the humanoid. (The newspaper *El Vocero* carried a photograph in its issue of July 15, showing Sr. Adrian and a number of neighbours and members of his family at the site, but the picture is not clear enough to show any details.)

Another footprint, found on the farm, at a spot adjoining the road, was erased by rain and the hordes of visitors before an attempt could be made to photograph it or take a mould of it. We ourselves, in our iinvestigation of the terrain four days after the occurrence of the affair, found no physical traces, nor did we find any evidence of magentic abnormality or radioactivity in the vicinity.

We must however mention that we found a broken branch, its foliage starting to wither, on the mango tree towards which the witness says the humanoid flew. While of course he did not actually observe the infliction of any damage to this tree by the entity, Sr. Adrian does not rule out the possibility that this may well be how the branch in question came to be damaged.

There is also another report, from a quite different quarter. An elderly woman neighbour, who on account of her advanced age wishes to remain anonymous so as to avoid fatigue and molestation, has reported that on Sunday, July 10, two days before Sr. Adrian's observation of the humanoid, she saw a luminous object fall from the sky in the same area from where the humanoid appeared. However, she had paid no further heed to the matter. Moreover, a ranch-owner, in the same district, has reported that, on the same night as Sr. Adrian de Olmos' sighting, all his cattle were thrown into a state of terror by some unknown cause, dashing themselves against the fences in their attempts to escape, and causing multiple wounds to themselves.

Summing up

Although this case contains no report of the presence of an unidentified flying object, it nevertheless would unquestionably appear to fall within the general framework of UFO phenomenology. And it may well be that this indicates that we have reached a new stage in the UFO phenomenon, as indicated by other recent developments, principally in the United States, during their 1973 Wave. (See *1973 – Year of the Humanoids*, by David Webb, Center for UFO Studies, Illinois, USA, May 1976.)

It should be noted furthermore that this case at Quebradillas does not seem to be part of any general UFO wave affecting the Island of Puerto Rico at this time (if we except just two isolated cases which were reported, at Caguas and Rincon respectively, in April and May 1977).

The appearance of sporadic cases like this – sporadic both in terms of time and of space – seems in fact to have been the chief feature for the whole world throughout 1976–1977. At the same time the majority of the cases reported do seem to continue to show, as this one at Quebradillas does, the same hallmark characteristics which are traditionally displayed by the UFO phenomenon. Perhaps therefore one would be right in saying that we seem to be seeing a new phase, in which the appearance of entities, in isolated cases here and there, seems to predominate, but without any evidence of a "UFO Wave" as this has been experienced in the past, and indeed without reports of UFOs seen either in flight or upon the ground.

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COMMENT BY GORDON CREIGHTON ON THE "FLYING" HUMANOID...

While the entity may well have been interested in the local power lines, as the witness suggests, I feel that this case acquires far greater importance if we read it in conjunction with Oscar A. Galindez's article *Violent Humanoid encountered in Bolivia* (FSR Vol.16, No.4, July/August 1970, p.15). The entity in Bolivia was actually caught in the act, by a woman, as it was killing her sheep with a tubular instrument ending in a hook. Although the accounts of the two entities show some discrepancies (and we are well used to this) two interesting facts emerge: *namely that both creatures were thought to be about 3½ feet high, and that both creatures rose up into the air seemingly with the aid of some sort of apparatus like a rucksack fixed on the back.*

We must also not forget the testimony of the local farmer, who said that all the animals on his property (near Sr. Adrian de Olmos' house) were thrown into great panic on the night when the latter saw the entity examining the lamp-standard in front of his house. It is true that the farmer's report does not appear to have included any mention of animal deaths or mutilations in that area on that particular night, but this may only have been because the creature responsible for such killings had been disturbed.

While, as I have said in a previous article, the endless variation in the reported appearance of UFO entities has now induced me to cease to believe in the existence of a multitude of different types of such creatures and to feel, rather, that we are the victims of such a manipulation that we have no true idea yet of what we are seeing or what we are experiencing, nevertheless it has to be admitted that, should I be wrong, and should such a vast variety of entity types indeed be found to exist, then this new report from Puerto Rico, plus Oscar Galindez' article of 1970 about the case in Bolivia, may be thought to provide us with some valuable information about the appearance of the creature responsible for the wave of animal killings and mutilations in Puerto Rico which has just been described for us in Sebastian Robiou Lamarche's last two articles, *UFOs and Mysterious Deaths of Animals* (FSR, Vol.22, Nos. 5 and 6).

STONEHENGE ENCOUNTER *(continued from p.2)*

were effects on the television on two of the evenings and disturbances noted on two compasses. On the return journey from Stonehenge one of the fathers reported feeling unwell, complaining of being hot and flushed. Some time later he was admitted to a hospital where he remained receiving treatment for about two weeks. It is known that he had a complete body rash and the skin appeared as if scalded, but it is necessary to emphasise that this physiological effect may not have any connection with the UFO events.

A complete investigation into both the sightings and study of the film is now under way. Analysis of the film is being undertaken by the manufacturer. The case investigation is being done principally by Jenny Randles and myself, under the banner of the UFO Investigators' Network. A production team from Granada TV are also following the case and its investigation with a view to presenting the findings.

A fuller description of the events will be forwarded to FSR as soon as they become available, and a complete investigation report in due course.

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THE AVELEY ABDUCTION

ANOTHER INTERRUPTED JOURNEY WITH ALLEGED CAR TELEPORTATION AND ABDUCTION, THIS TIME IN GREATER LONDON

Andrew Collins

Report compiled January 1978 on behalf of UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN) for FSR Publications Ltd.

IN YEARS PAST we have come to accept many aspects of the UFO encounter. None can be more interesting, or involved, than the reports of alleged abductions, car teleportations, and contacts, all of which have found their way into the pages of many books and magazines with varied degrees of depth and accuracy. But if one looks closely, a large percentage of these cases have either been reported in Africa, the United States, or South American countries. Never before have we been able to present a fully documented account of an abduction, a car teleportation, and an important contact case all rolled into one, which has been reported in Great Britain.

This case, which I believe is probably the most important British case ever, happened in the autumn of 1974. Yet it was not brought to light until August 1977. It was nearly three years before the witnesses decided to come forward and "get off their chests" an incident that they say happened to them late one evening whilst driving along country lanes near Aveley, in Essex, only 13 miles from the City of London.

PART I – THE INCIDENT, AS INITIALLY REPORTED, AND FAMILY BACKGROUND

ON Saturday August 14, 1977, I telephoned a colleague of mine in a local UFO group to enquire whether they were engaged in any new investigations, not previously known to me. After some time on the telephone he mentioned that he had the name of a person in Aveley who had contacted them some months before stating that he had seen a UFO and had then encountered a green 'mist' on the road. Then, on reaching home, he realised that three hours were missing from his life.

Members of the UFO Group had twice tried to speak with this person by telephone, but on each occasion the family was either out, or the telephone line was so bad that a conversation could not be held. My colleague gave me the name, address and telephone number, stating that the group had given up trying, and suggested I might like to take up the case. I agreed without hesitation. Minutes after I finished the call to the group, I spoke to the witness and arranged an interview with him for the following day, Sunday August 15. I then arranged with my fellow investigator in the network, Barry King, to join me at the interview.

What follows stems directly from that first interview, and consequently from the succession of investigatory interviews that followed.

The whole encounter centres around the Avis family, a very normal, simple, and warm East London family. They live in a semi-detached house in Aveley, Essex. The family consists of John, aged 32, his wife, Elaine, aged 28, and their three children: Kevin, aged 10, Karen, aged 11, and Stuart, aged 7. Both John and Elaine were born in the London East End area of Stratford. John was educated in a Secondary School in Forest Gate, but due to the large classes and inexperienced teachers, he feels he did not have a fair schooling. He liked studying English, and "making things" at school but was unable to learn either of them satisfactorily. John left school at 15 and decided to learn a trade. As "making things" was one of the only things he liked doing, he did a five-year apprenticeship in Joinery and Building. Since then, John has had over thirty different jobs, most of which have been to do with carpentry or constructing things. Besides his daily jobs, John has also been a disc jockey in the evenings. His main interests in life are constructive, and he is a very creative person by nature. He is independent, and dislikes what he calls "9 to 5" type jobs.

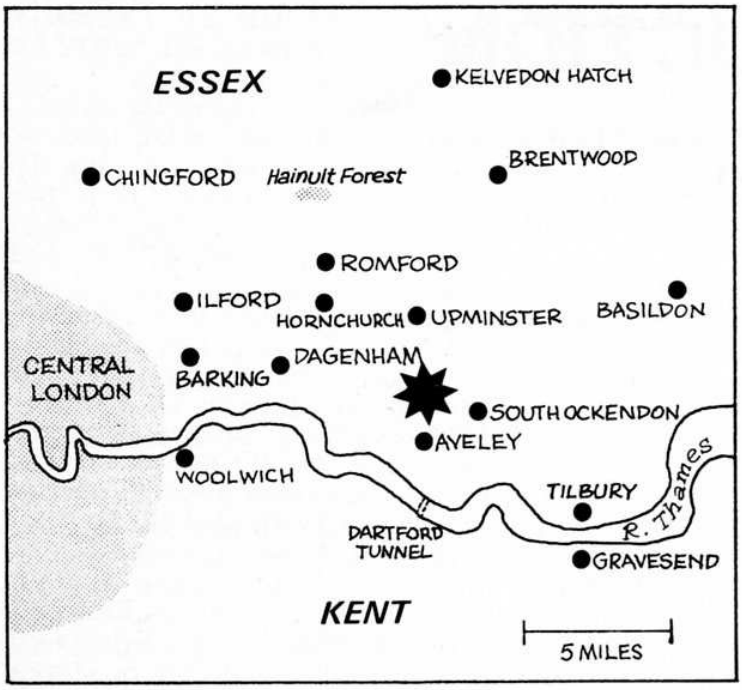
Despite his inadequate education John is a very intelligent person who has pronounced feelings and views on all aspects of life. He expresses points very effectively and has a vast vocabulary, although keeping his typical Londoner-type personality, i.e. accent, humour and views. He says he dislikes officialdom, snobbery and the rich.

Elaine is a very quiet person. She went to a High School for girls, and left at sixteen to become an accountant. This she gave up eleven years ago when she married. Since then she has been a full-time mother to her three very active children.

The incident

On Sunday October 27, 1974, John, Elaine and their three children went to Elaine's parents' house in Harold Hill, Essex. Elaine's sister, Anne, had to be picked up from school after returning from a week's school trip to Belgium, so John and Elaine's father travelled to the school by car at about 16.30, being there in time for the scheduled arrival time of 17.00. Due to delays, however, Anne did not show up until 21.00. This delay was inconvenient for John as he wanted to be home by 22.20 to see a play on television.

After Anne had been taken home, the family eventually departed from Harold Hill at about 21.50. This gave them sufficient time to get home to see the



The location of Aveley: the 'star' marks the place where the encounter took place

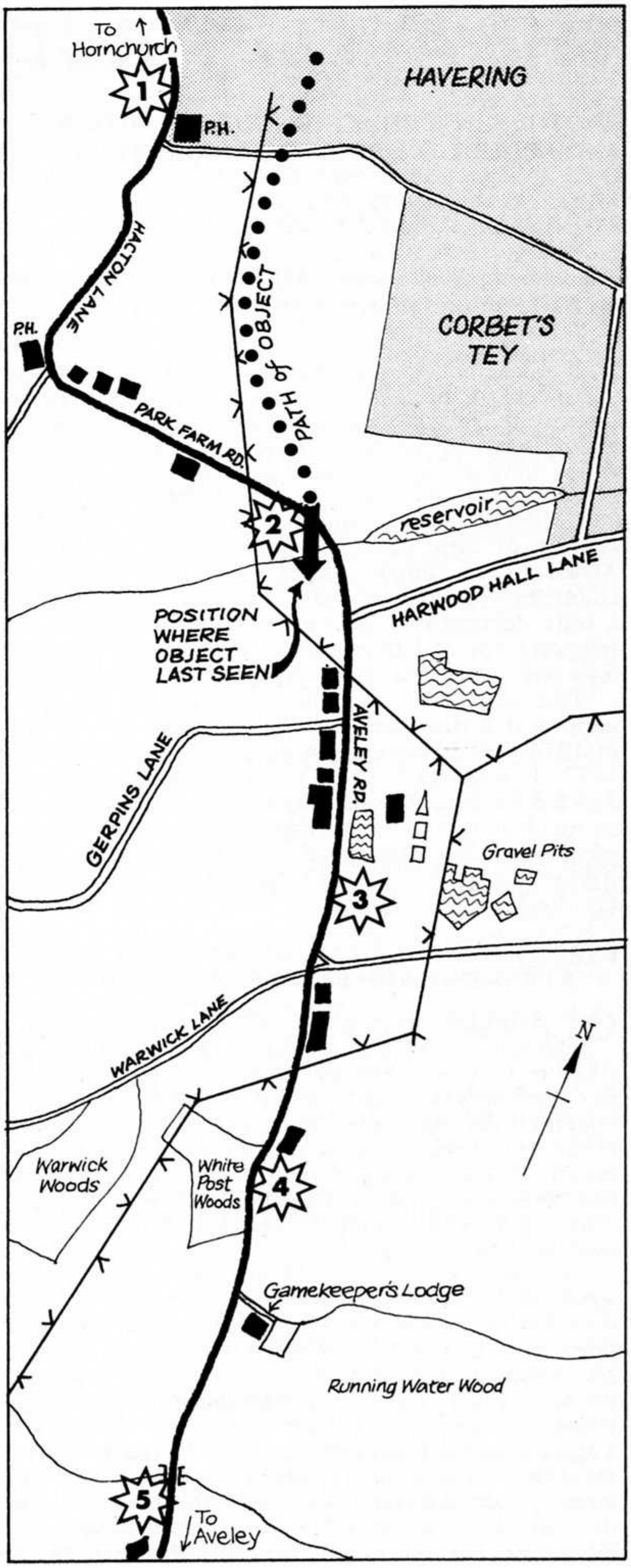
play, for the journey normally takes only 20 minutes. The normal route, south of Hornchurch and along Hacton Lane, was taken.

The Avis family were travelling in their white Vauxhall *Victor Estate* car. Two of the children, Karen and Stuart, were asleep on the back seat. Kevin was awake and glancing casually out of the window. The weather was fine, a beautiful clear night, very mild and dry. The radio was tuned to a local radio station's chat show. John commented on the distinct lack of cars whilst driving along Hacton Lane. They were about one mile away from the town of Hornchurch, heading south, with a few terraced houses on their left-hand side, while fields and tall hedges bordered the right-hand side.

Suddenly, Kevin asked his parents about a light which he could see above the houses. Glancing round, both John and Elaine saw, at an angle of about 25° – 30° above the horizon, an oval shaped, pale-blue irridescent light, like a "big star," over the top of the houses to their left. This would have been

KEY TO ROUTE MAP

1. **Light first seen over built-up area of Havering and power line (Grid ref: 549 859).**
2. **Light last seen here passing to right in front of car (Grid ref: 555 849).**
3. **Green mist encountered here (Grid ref: 563 838).**
4. **Position of car first remembered by John after encountering green mist (Grid ref' 564 829).**
5. **Position of car first remembered by Elaine after encountering green mist (Grid ref: 565 823).**



The route: positions of car during UFO sightings and alleged abduction

in the east. They could not estimate its distance at that point, but thought it was not more than 500 yards away.

The "big star" seemed to be travelling in the same direction as the car, and appeared to be "stopping and starting" as it moved. The family at first thought it was a helicopter's light, or "something," even though it was bigger in apparent size than Venus.

Within seconds of their seeing the light they passed the end of the houses on the left had side, and the light was obscured from them by a small wood. This was soon passed, and once again the light could be seen clearly, still travelling in the same direction, although now a bit slower. The family continued to watch the light and they were already calling it a UFO. Karen and Stuart were still asleep in the back of the car, and once again John remarked about the lack of traffic for a road which is usually very busy at that time of night (the time was now about 22.10).

Once the last of the houses, and the woods are passed one is in open countryside, and in complete darkness. This gave the family a very good view of the light. It still seemed to be the same distance away from them, that is about 500 yards. After watching the light for about one minute they arrived at a point where the road turns 90° to the left, and becomes Park Farm Road. At this corner, to the right hand side, is a public house called The White Hart. The family can remember activity at the public house, but still the roads were clear.

The car was now travelling East towards Aveley, and the light had also changed course, now travelling to the south-east. It still appeared to be the same distance from them. Because of the position of the light John, being the driver, could only occasionally glance over towards it.

After having travelled east along Park Farm Road for about half a mile they saw the light had again changed its course to one a little more south-easterly. So, it was in fact now heading towards the road at an angle of 50°. It picked up speed and soon passed in front of them at a steep angle of about 50° from the horizon. Still it appeared to be at a similar distance from them. John insists on this high angle as he remembers slowing the car down and craning his neck to look up at the light through the top of the windscreen.

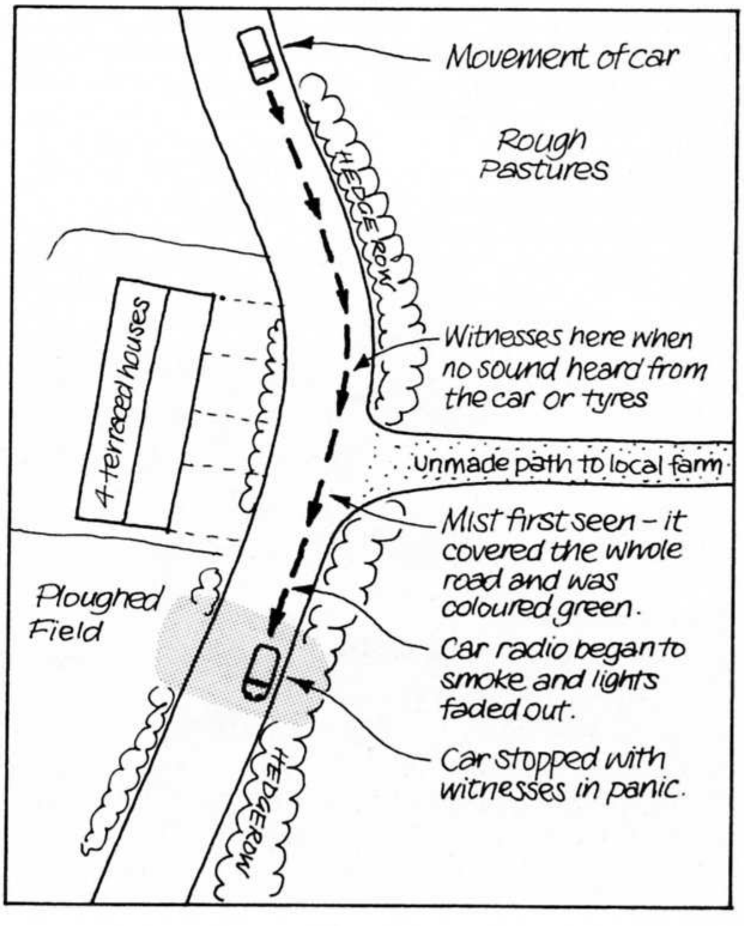
The car then went down a dip and the light was obscured by the bushes on the right hand side of the road. This was, they thought, the end of the "sighting" so the excitement died down and they resumed a normal frame of mind to coninue their journey. Still no cars had been seen to pass them in either direction.

After the dip the road then bends to the right and continues under the name Aveley Road. They drove on for about a mile, passing a gravel pit on the left, and then a road to Upminster. On the right they passed several bungalows, reaching a point where the road turns to the right at an angle of 30°. On the left side of the road there are thick bushes, while on the right is a block of four terraced houses which lie back about 20 yards from the road. The car was entering the bend at about 30 m.p.h. when they had a terrible feeling that something was wrong. The only sound that could be heard was the radio; neither the car tyres nor the engine were audible.

Then, as they came through the bend, they could see, no more than 30 yards in front of them and covering the whole road, a thick "mist," or "gas," or "fog." It was dense green and banked about 8-9 feet high, and was bordered on the left-hand side by thick bushes. On the right it seemed to curve down to the ground, just behind the thin line of trees along the road's verge. The top of the bank was flat, and the bottom was touching the ground.

Just as the mist was seen by the occupants of the car, the radio started crackling and smoking, and John pulled out its wires. Then the lights went dead, and they were engulfed by the fog while still travelling about 30 m.p.h. Elaine remembers the car jerking violently as the mist curled around the car; it was very different from any thick fog they had ever encountered before.

The windows were up, Kevin was standing on the floor behind them, and the other two children were still asleep. Inside the "fog" it was very light, and they felt very cold. A tingling sensation was felt, and there was a dead silence. Everything was hazy though, and nothing more could be remembered, not even if the car was still moving. They must have been in the mist only for what seemed like a second or two, when suddenly there was a jolt "like a car going over a hump back bridge" and then the mist was gone. According to John the car was now exactly a half a mile along the same road. Things at this point were very confusing for John, but he swears he was on his



own in the front of the car. The car, according to John, was now travelling along the side of some woodlands called White Post Wood. Elaine's first recollections were of reaching a point about a half a mile further on, just after a small bridge at more woodlands known as Running Water Woods.

Both said that the coldness had now gone, and the car was functioning normally, except that the radio was still unwired. Things were unclear while they were driving home, but they can remember that Kevin was still awake, and that the other two children were still asleep. Elaine vaguely remembers that the interior light was on in the car, and also that she asked: "Is everybody here?" John and Elaine think they may have talked about the mist but cannot remember exactly. Both felt very nervous and frightened, although no ill effects were remembered.

On reaching home, John rewired his car radio, and checked that his lights were working. Both Karen and Stuart were still asleep, so they were carried up to bed. Then Elaine checked the time, and became very agitated, for the clock which should have read about 22.20 showed instead that it was about 01.00. John was also worried, and annoyed because he had missed the play that he had wanted to see. Elaine thinks she may have telephoned "TIM" the talking clock to confirm the time, but is not definite.

They now realised that there were three hours for which they could not account. They had no idea what had happened, or even what could have happened. They concluded they had better forget it, and not mention the matter again.

But within twenty four hours it had been mentioned again. Elaine telephoned her mother the following day and in passing told her of the "light" and the green fog, but not the missing three hours. John should have been at work the following morning but decided not to go as he did not get up until 11 o'clock.

The only ill effects noted the following day were that both John and Elaine felt tired, which could quite well be expected. All three children went to school, and seemed to be in perfect health.

Notes on the incident

The incident as described is taken directly from details given to me during the first interview, and a few small points concerning it have been deduced from subsequent interviews. Otherwise, at this point, I have totally ignored what we have learned that is supposed to have happened during those missing hours. I will now run through the incident again giving additional items of information concerning each part.

The date Sunday October 27, 1974, was only confirmed after Elaine's sister, Anne, overheard John and Elaine talking with me about the incident in October 1977. She remarked, after we had mentioned the green "mist," that that was the night when John and her father had collected her after her

Above:
Looking south along Aveley Road. The "green mist" was encountered just ahead of the car in the photograph.

Left:
John and Elaine — suitably anonymous — stand by the four little terraced houses at the bend in the Aveley Road where the witnesses came in sight of the bank of mist athwart the road.

Right:
The place where the abduction is said to have taken place. The "green mist" has been drawn in. This is point 3 on the route map on page 14.

Below:
Looking south along Aveley Road, with White Post Woods on the right. This is the first spot which John remembers after entering the green mist. This is point 4 on the route map.

Belgian trip. She remembered that on the following day Elaine had told her mother of the incident. This proved invaluable to us since, at that time, we had only succeeded in narrowing the date down to sometime in September/October 1974. Some simple checking with school holidays for that year soon gave us the correct date.

The times seemed an important factor so I checked whether any plays were actually on the television that night. To my surprise there were three: one on London Weekend Television at 22.30; one on BBC Channel 1 at 22.20, and one on BBC Channel 2, again at 22.20. Although the fact that John wanted to return home to watch a play was only mentioned under hypnosis, John thinks that he would without doubt have gone home to see the play on BBC Channel 2 called *The Girls in their Summer Dresses*, as he knows of this play, and has seen it on television since.

The route taken by the family is the normal one anybody would take from Harold Hill to Aveley. Barry King and I travelled this way from door to door on August 18, 1977, and it took exactly 22 minutes for a distance of 9 miles. Hacton Lane and Aveley Road are both part of the Greater London Borough of Havering. The bridge that Elaine first remembers after the green "mist" marks the natural boundary between London and the Essex Borough of Grays Thurrock. The name of the road is also changed to Romford Road at this point. The area around the lanes is mostly farmland (i.e. fields, barns, and cottages) and gravel pits. The roads are unlit at night besides two or three lamp posts along Aveley Road, one of which is to the right hand side of the road where the green "mist" was encountered.

Barry and I made calls at the block of four terraced houses at the place where the green "mist" was encountered, and asked whether or not anybody could recall any UFO activity in 1974. The answer was negative. I also paid a call to the public house on the Hacton Lane–Park Farm Road bend but the people there could not help.

The part of the road where the green "mist" was seen is 30 feet wide and, as stated, the bushes are about 11–12 ft. high on the left hand side. Behind the bushes to the left is rough pasture, and beyond that is a gravel works. On the right hand side is a line of scattered trees approximately 20 ft. high. Ploughed fields lie behind these.

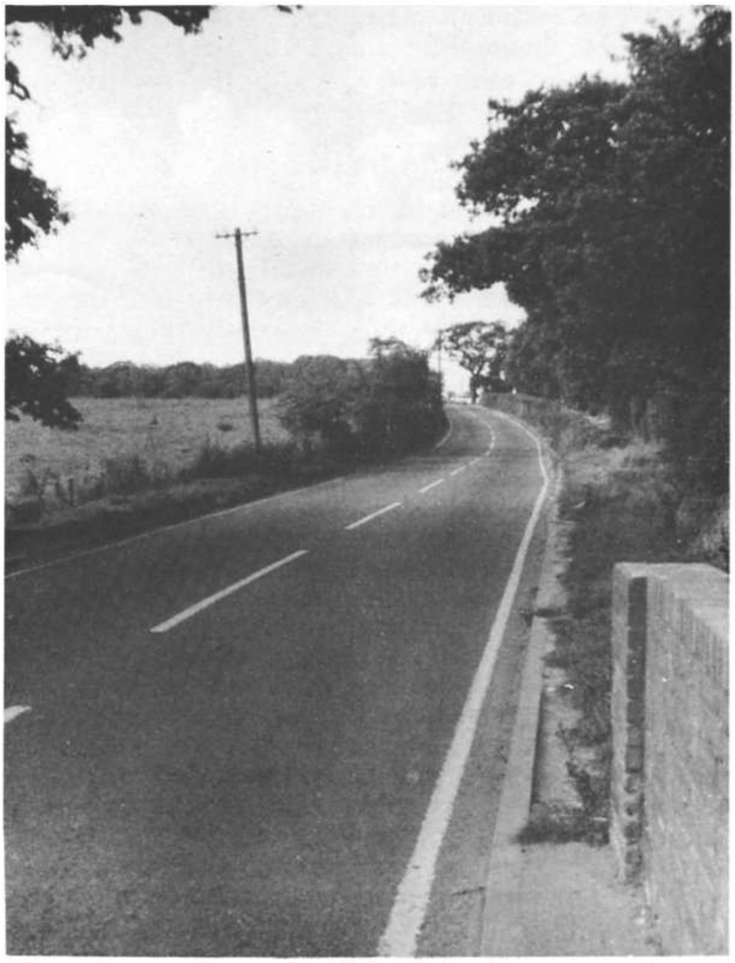
Just before the point which John first remembers after the green "mist" there are high tension electricity pylons running north east to south west.

Between the point where the mist was encountered and the point which John first remembers after the mist, there is a row of houses on the left hand side, and a crossroads. Hardly the sort of thing one would forget to notice.

John and Elaine had the white Vauxhall *Victor Estate* for approximately one year before the incident, and said that it had had no faults before that. After the incident, however, it started malfunctioning. During the remaining couple of months that they had the car the crankshaft broke. Another engine was fitted, and clutches kept shattering. Eventually the car was taken to a breakers yard in early 1975. The car radio functioned perfectly normally after the incident.

During the first interview we asked the family whether they had any scuff marks on their shoes, or had any clothes missing or loose after the encounter, but the answer was negative.

The Avis family had first contacted the local UFO group after a large article concerning UFOs had appeared in a local newspaper called *The Thurrock Express.* At the end of the article which, ironically, was by myself, the telephone number of the local group had been inserted. John spoke to them only a couple of times, but on each occasion the line was so bad, a conversation could not be held. The next call he received concerning the encounter was when I got in touch with him on Saturday August 14, 1977.



The point on the road which Elaine first remembers after entering the "green mist." This is point 5 on the route map

Developments after the incident

After the incident several notable changes occurred in all members of the family. Although mostly experienced by John and Elaine, the children also underwent changes. In addition to this, many odd events took place on the road, inside, and outside the house. What follows is a collection of items of information taken from interviews with the witnesses from August to December 1977.

Personal changes

Soon after the incident, John suffered a nervous breakdown for no apparent reason; he is not sure of the exact date but it was before Christmas. Due to the breakdown John had to give up his job and did not work again until September 1975. In September a job "fell into his lap," one which he had wanted to do for many years. This involved working with the mentally handicapped. He now felt much more confident in himself, but this could quite well have been due to having recovered from the nervous breakdown. He kept his job until July 1977 when he resigned due to a disagreement with the management. Now he is working for himself creating things, and he is hoping to start a career in teaching arts and crafts.

Since November 1974, John has written many poems about life, all of which were written down on the spur of the moment.

Elaine has also become more self confident, and since September 1975 has attended college, which is something she had wanted to do for many years.

Kevin who was backward in his reading at school, suddenly started to improve and is now way ahead of his reading age.

At the time of the encounter, John, Elaine, Kevin and Karen all gave up eating meat, and now cannot even stand the smell of it. John and Elaine feel very strongly about this, taking the view that animals should not be killed so that people can eat. They (particularly John) do their best to stop other people around them from eating meat. Stuart is the only member of the family who still eats it.

John and Elaine both admit that on occasions they have tried to eat both fish and meat, but the taste now makes them ill.

They are also very conscious of what they eat. No foods with any preservatives, colourings, flavouring, or anything else unnatural are ever bought now. They eat health foods to a certain degree.

John and Elaine both feel very strongly about conservation of our environment, and our heritage. John feels we are gradually destroying our lives by abusing our environment. His views are very strong about cutting down trees, taking away hedgerows, taking oil from below the ground, pollution, and other similar matters.

Whereas both John and Elaine liked "a good drink" before the incident they hardly ever touch

alcohol now. Only on very special occasions will they take alcoholic drinks.

Just before Christmas 1974, John, who up till then had smoked some 60-70 cigarettes a day, suddenly gave up smoking completely. Since then he has not wanted a cigarette and now hates the smell of them. Elaine does not smoke.

Both John and Elaine feel that doctors are overused. They feel that people go to doctors just for the sake of going and are prescribed useless medicines. Neither ever take tablets or medicine. The only tablets that are taken are bichemical tissue salts, which only build up tissue salts.

Several other smaller changes can be seen in John, one of which I believe is a stronger personality and more persuasive attitude. Also, John resists raising his voice to his children now.

Strange occurrences since the encounter

Shortly after the encounter both John and Elaine remember being followed constantly by the same three cars, one a red "sports" or small car, one a blue *Jaguar*, and another a "large" white car, possibly a Ford *Executive*. All cars had darkened windows and British new style (yellow at front, white at rear) registration plates. They thought that it was probably the police. This lasted "well into the summer" (of 1975).

One night during 1975 their attention was drawn to a car parked on the opposite side of the road from their house. It was a white *Cortina* Mk. 2, in good condition, and contained two men. Both men seemed to be talking very loudly indeed, which was the reason for their attention being drawn to the car in the first place. The time was about 21.00. At 01.00 they began to get a bit tired of them, so they telephoned the police and told them about the car. John did not give his name and address. Five minutes later there came a knock on the door. John looked at the front door and saw that somebody was looking through the letter box. John reluctantly opened the door and saw standing before him a gentleman in a blue mac, and with short black hair. He was short and stocky. The man said he was a policeman and that he had come in response to John's telephone call. This astounded John, but he pointed to the car still parked over the road. The "policeman" then left and John shut the door. No identity card was shown. Neither John nor Elaine can remember exactly what happened next, but there were sounds like the slamming of car doors. They then all drove away in the two cars. The car in which the "policeman" had come was not in police livery but was dark in colour. There appeared to be one other man in the car.

Strange happenings inside the house

During the three years since the incident several strange things have happened, or have been heard inside the house. Several items have disappeared from various rooms without trace, or have turned up a few days later somewhere else. Objects that have been mislaid completely include pens, pencils, a roll of film, and a hole puncher. Of course, with three young children around the house, it is quite possible they had picked them up and mislaid them.

One day when Elaine was on the telephone to her sister-in-law the back door flew open wildly crashing against the wall. This was very odd for she always kept the back door locked. This happened again under similar circumstances during October 1977. This time John was present. He said that the kitchen was suddenly filled with a smell like lavender. John has also smelt a sickly sweet smell inside the house on various occasions. He explained that usually it seemed to suddenly waft across the room, and then fade away.

On several occasions both John and Elaine have heard a humming noise coming from right outside the house. It is likened to a droning and is mostly heard after midnight, usually after they have retired to bed. The noise seems to start like a distant aircraft then intensifies to a very loud level. It then seems to move across the top of the house until it is heard to be coming from the other side of the house. On each occasion it suddenly cuts out, it does not fade away. This humming has been known to last for up to half an hour. Once John did pluck up enough courage to look outside but saw nothing. Elaine's sister, Anne, often babysits for the family and she too heard the noise on one occasion.

Also a type of "clicking" noise has been heard inside the living room on a couple of occasions. Anne, Elaine's sister, was present when it was heard and she described it as sounding like a rustle. On one occasion, John went across to where he thought it was coming from only to find it seemed to move away from him towards another corner of the room. These 'clicks' are again only heard late at night, and are very sharp, clear and loud. Of course, there must be a possibility that this phenomenon is none other than the noise of a small insect, but as yet no insect has ever been seen that could produce the noise.

On October 27, 1977, Barry King, John and I were out for the evening. When we returned we found out that a copy of my own "Catalogue of UFO Sightings in Essex for 1976" that I had given to John earlier that evening, had somehow moved from the place on which John had put it in the living room, out into the kitchen, and then fell to the floor, frightening Elaine and Anne in the living room. All the children were in bed.

On three occasions a kind of "morse code" has been heard inside John's and Elaine's bedroom. The first two occasions were only heard by Elaine. The third was also heard by John. On the first occasion, it was heard at 00.30. Elaine was in bed and John was downstairs. Suddenly the "morse code" started and it sounded as though it was coming from inside the bedroom. This only lasted for a minute or so, but was long enough for Elaine to remember a small part of the sequence. It did not make any sense. On the second occasion, it was heard for much longer and again came from John's and Elaine's bedroom. Some dots and dashes were scribbled down although again no letters could be discerned. The third occasion was on November 27, 1977, and was just a short burst. John stated that it appeared to be coming from inside the bedroom. Again it only lasted for a minute or so.

On Wednesday December 13, 1977, John and Elaine were in the living room watching television. The time was about 19.00 and the children were out. Suddenly a large portable radio that was standing on top of the television set rose vertically about 3 inches, then dropped back again. Later the same evening the whole family were watching television when the handle of the door leading to the hall turned slowly as if somebody was trying to open the door, then shot back to its original position as if released suddenly. Both incidents unnerved the family.

I too can vouch personally for some of the strange happenings inside the house. On Sunday October 16, 1977, I took John and Elaine home from a regression session in North London. We chatted until the early hours of the morning and decided that the weather was too bad for me to go home (thick fog), and it was late. So I slept on their sofa. During the night, I was awakened by crashing sounds coming from the kitchen. It sounded like someone hitting pots and pans together, and lasted only for a matter of seconds. This frightened the life out of me and I decided not to investigate but to hide instead under the sheets. Suddenly, I felt a very strange sensation in my feet: it gradually moved up my whole body and over my head. It was a very stimulating and soothing feeling that soon passed away. Then the sensation was felt again in my feet, and again it moved up through my body to my head. Once more it faded and went. This feeling left me really at ease and peaceful, whereas before I had been very frightened after hearing the banging.

'Clown' in the bedroom

One night some time during 1975/1976, Kevin claimed he saw a "man" standing by the side of his bed dressed like a clown. He is thought to have been dressed in white. No other details can be remembered.

Other oddities

Early in 1975 the family cat disappeared for about 6-8 weeks for no apparent reason. Also, on several occasions the cat has backed away and hissed at something unseen inside the living room.

Their telephone has been acting oddly for some time now. Often it would ring and one of the family would pick up the receiver to find no-one at the other end. Also, on many occasions various clicks and knocks like somebody replacing the receiver have been heard during conversations. On at least one occasion Elaine has picked up the receiver and heard heavy breathing only.

During 1975 John was persistently stopped by the police in his car and asked to show his documents. This was happening at least five times a week and continued for over a month. On each occasion, John was given a "five day wonder" note, under the terms of which the driver must produce all relevant documents to the nearest police station within five days. Each time John would go to the local police station with the documents. They kept asking John who was giving him these. John could only answer "one of your lot." After receiving yet another notice, John threatened the local police that he would write to the chief constable of Essex if he received any more. The harassment then ceased, and since then he has not been stopped.

Other UFO experiences of the family

The encounter on October 27, 1974, was not the first UFO the family had seen. In fact, John has had at least four other experiences involving UFOs, including CEII.*

The first sighting was 12-13 years ago whilst John and Elaine were still courting, at Walton-on-the-Naze, a seaside resort in Essex. While on holiday there, John and Elaine were casually strolling along the seafront. Then out over the sea they caught sight of a large "flat" star-like object behaving erratically. It was stopping, looping the loop, and darting across the sky. It was in view for about 10 minutes before it shot off out to sea. At least 10-15 other people had been watching it.

The family's second encounter came in 1968. John had been working in Birmingham and was returning home from an exhibition with three others. John was a passenger, and they were driving down the M1 Motorway. He has no idea which part of the M1 they had reached but knows "it was nearer London than Birmingham." Then all persons in the car noticed a large bluish-white light coming towards them. Next thing, the brake lights of the car in front intensified then went out. After which the car appeared to be slowing down and John presumed the engine had cut. Then the lights and engine of the car John was travelling in, also cut. They then hit the car in front, and that consequently hit a car in front of that, whose lights and engine had also cut! All drivers left their cars and chatted together, then decided to call the police. In the confusion the light was ignored and presumably disappeared.

The police arrived soon afterwards and all drivers explained what had happened. The police stated that they had had several other reports of the same nature from elsewhere in that area. After exchanging insurance company names the drivers got into their respective cars and started their engines without any problem. Each then carried on with his journey.

The next sighting came just after or just before the October 27 incident in 1974. John was travelling

* CEII – Close encounter of the second kind. A close encounter, where the reported UFO is seen at close range and where physical effects on both animals and/or inanimate material are noted.

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along Aveley Road, the road of the main encounter, at about 08.30 one morning. Glancing up through the windscreen he saw an airliner in the clear sky. John was amazed to see behind and above it a large cylindrical shaped object pacing the aircraft. It appeared to be twice the size of the plane and matt silver in colour. The object paced the aircraft for some time, then overtook it and shot away. No noise was heard and no protrusions were visible.

The fourth sighting came three years after the main encounter. On October 7, 1977, the whole family were travelling from their home in Aveley to Walton-on-the-Naze. Whilst travelling along the A12 road between Gallows Corner and Brentwood, they caught sight of a large bluish "star-like" light travelling in a similar direction to that of the car. This light kept in view on the left-hand side of the car until they almost reached Colchester, some 40-50 miles from where they had first seen it. During this time the object changed speed and height and at one point was just above tree top level, at which point they could make out that it was oval in shape. Also at this point the car radio crackled and eventually the station was lost. The car's lights and engine also acted oddly at this point. Eventually the light climbed high into the sky and was seen to disappear in front of them at an incredible speed. No other sightings were reported to us for that night.

UFO knowledge of the family

Because several odd lights have been seen, the family has a general interest in the subject. However, no-one in the family has ever read any literature on UFOs or associated phenomena. They had watched the *Out Of This World* programme screened in May, 1976, on BBC1. This included an account by Mrs. Joyce Bowles and Mr. Ted Pratt of their encounter at Winchester in late 1976, and an account by Mr. Charles Bowen, Editor of *Flying Saucer Review* of the famous Antônio Villas-Boas case. Both of these could have been the source of information. The family has also watched a programme "some years back" concerning the theories of Erich von Daniken. John could also remember seeing two programmes on ley-lines, both of which he found very interesting.

As UFO activity is relatively low in the area of Aveley, hardly any sightings are ever reported in the local press, so information could not be gained this way.

At various times during the first interview I asked whether they knew of any of the following: *Flying Saucer Review*, BUFORA, George Adamski, Betty and Barney Hill, or *Official UFO* Magazine. They knew of none of them. In fact, it seemed that their knowledge of the subject was very limited.

As previously stated, we enquired during the interview whether they had any idea at all as to what had happened during the three lost hours and the answer was 'no', but I think even then they realised it could have been something to do with UFOs.

At no time did we suggest to them that there was a possibility that they may have been abducted.

To this day, John has not read any UFO literature besides a very quick glance through a recent *Flying Saucer Review* and the contents of my "Catalogue of UFO Sightings in Essex for 1976." This, it must be stressed, does not include any occupant cases.

Past ghost-type apparitions

During his childhood, John had two experiences where a ghost-type apparition was seen. The first of these was whilst John was playing in a cellar of an old house on a bomb-site. Looking round he saw a small child standing in the cellar covered in dust. On enquiring as to who he was the boy turned around and just disappeared.

The second experience was in a hall in which John was helping to arrange the scenery for a gang show. As only those helping were supposed to be in the hall, John was surprised to see a small boy standing near the stage. Suddenly the apparition disappeared. Some time after the experience John found that a small boy had been killed some years back in a shaft at the rear of the hall.

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PART 2 — ABDUCTION REVEALED THROUGH DREAMS AND HYPNOTIC REGRESSION SESSIONS

DURING the first interview, we asked both John and Elaine whether they had had any odd or recurring dreams. Their answers gave us our first hints at what really happened in those lost hours.

John stated that he could remember a few flashes from some odd dreams. The first thing he said was that he could remember being operated on, or "something similar," by "gnomes" or "small ugly looking things." Another flash he had was of somebody touching the scars on his chest and carrying out "tests" on him.

Elaine said that she could recall a "dream" where she was lying on a flat wide table like that in a hospital operating theatre. She felt as if she could neither move nor speak. Standing next to her was a person of small stature in a white coat. That was all she could remember.

These important flashes, and what we knew of the journey and the green "mist," prompted us immediately to try to get the help of a hypnotist for regression sessions. As the network is run by *Flying Saucer Review*, the right person was not far away. In a short time I received a telephone call from Charles Bowen who told me he had arranged for hypnotic sessions to take place, and that I would shortly hear from Dr. Bernard E. Finch, a General Medical Practitioner, contributor and consultant to the *Review*. The telephone call soon followed and Dr. Finch informed me that the hypnotist was none other than Dr. Leonard Wilder, a Dental Surgeon who

for 20 years has been using hypnotism in research into reincarnation. Leonard Wilder has written a book on this subject in collaboration with psychic researcher, Peter Underwood, entitled *Lives to Remember* Published by Robert Hale in 1975. I spoke to Dr. Wilder the following day, and it was arranged with him for a hypnosis session to take place at the residence of Dr. Finch on Sunday September 25, 1977.

The second interview

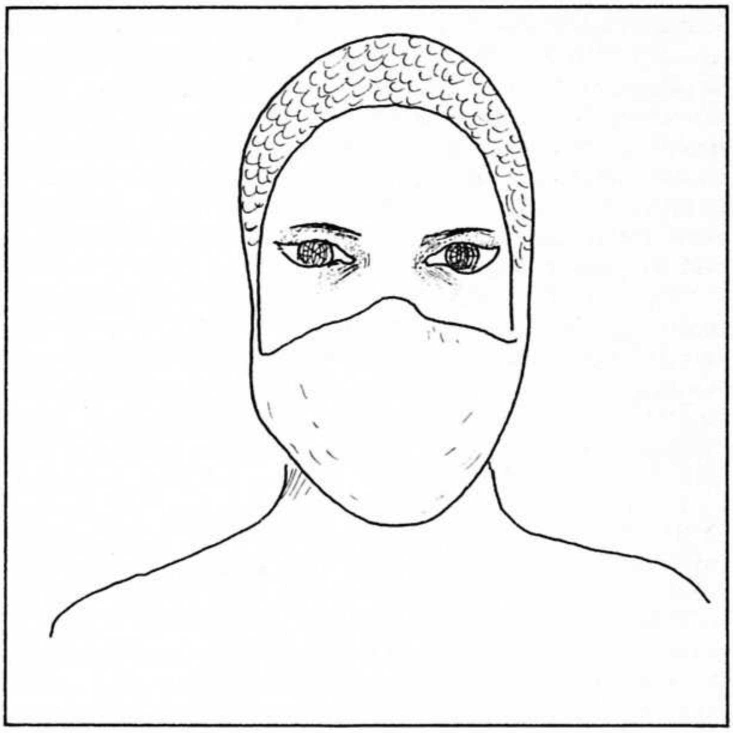
After the first interview many, many unanswered questions came up, and I found it necessary to arrange another interview before the hypnosis session. The second interview was held on Monday September 19. After running through the journey and the mist, and various other points, with both John and Elaine, we touched again on the dreams.

Elaine said she could remember more now, and stated that she could remember seeing John, herself, and Kevin standing in front of a blue car. They were in a large room with curved walls, which had 'girders' running down. Then the car was on a platform in front of which she thought she could see machinery to the left. Walking round the machinery were men in grey one-piece suits. She remembers moving away towards a room where the table was that she had remembered earlier. Inside this room was a small ugly-looking person. Having recovered from the surprise of this new and valuable information "out of the blue," I asked Elaine to make a drawing of the being who was near the machinery, the large room where the car was, and the room with the table. Whilst she was drawing the being by the machinery John, who had been quiet up to this point, knelt across and told Elaine that she had drawn the arms and legs incorrectly. He then drew in what he said were the correct arms and legs. I then enquired how he knew what a being in Elaine's dream looked like. He replied that he also could now remember (after hearing what Elaine had just said) something about being on an operating table with tall beings around him. He also stated that he was sure that he was shown around the place, and told many things.

After a few more hours I had accounts from both John and Elaine of what they could remember of wherever they were. Even this was only a very small part of what came to light during the hypnotic sessions, and during the many interviews that followed.

The hypnotic sessions

John had agreed during the first interview to allow himself to be hypnotised for purposes of trying to find out what exactly had happened during those lost three hours. He felt he would rather know than be puzzled for the rest of his life. Elaine, on the other hand, said she did not want to be hypnotised, and in fact said at that point that she would rather forget the whole business. Regressing Kevin was out of the question as both John and Elaine stressed the fact that they did not want Kevin to know what had happened to him at this point of time, as it would only be interpreted in the wrong way. This I understood.



Based on a drawing by John late in December 1977. This is a head and shoulders of one of the tall entities. Note the wearing of a face mask, a feature not recalled during the hypnotic sessions

There were three sessions in all, spread out over a month. John came alone to the first two sessions, and on the third, Elaine attended as an observer.

Session 1 – Sunday September 25, 1977

According to John, he was so worried about the session that he was going to tell me to forget it when I went to pick him up. But he changed his mind.

The session was attended by Dr. Leonard Wilder, the hypnotist, Dr. Bernard Finch, medical adviser, Gordon Creighton as adviser, their wives, Barry King and myself. Dr. Wilder started by taking John to an upstairs room and asking him to explain the whole incident. After that the rest of the group joined them and John was hypnotised three times. On no occasion was he regressed. An arm levitation exercise was carried out twice. Leonard Wilder then ended the session stating that John was a very good subject indeed.

Even though John was not regressed he seemed to recollect several odd impressions while under hypnosis. He said he saw a large circular blue object with a skin across it, and two arms with rocks on its outside. Also he had an impression of seeing a gentleman in an arab-like headdress holding a circular red light. Behind the "Arab" were hills or mountains.

The actual incident was also remembered in more detail. First he said he could see them going along in the car and he could hear Kevin say "There's smoke." Then Elaine said "The radio's on fire." John then said he pulled out the wires on the radio, and then nothing, blank. Another impression; he was in the car and aware of a greenness all around. Then a white beam cut through the green. This we decided had to

be after the car had entered the mist.

There were nother small points of interest concerning the incident, although these will be included in the main account later.

Session 2 — October 2, 1977

John was more relaxed at this session. Probably because he knew what to expect. The session included everyone who was at the previous session, except Barry King. After putting John in a state of hypnosis, Dr. Wilder performed the usual arm levitation exercise. After this John was regressed back through his childhood stopping at the ages of 13, 11, 5 and then 3. Each time, his voice sounded more childlike. John was then taken beyond his own life and asked to relive a time when he was someone else. This he did very successfully, reliving a time in the 1800's After this Dr. Wilder brought John forward to 1974 and asked him "...to relive the experience that he had had in 1974 when driving home with his family and when they encountered a mist." What follows are extracts from the transcript taken from that session.

Leonard Wilder: Now, talk about the car and the first experience you had as you located the light driving down the road. You see a light low...it appears to be following you.
John: It's on...just a light, on, on, left.
L.W: Yes, talk about it.
John: It was low, bright, and not one colour... following...and I— I— couldn't see it, and only Elaine saw it and boy...move...across in front, and I saw it clear...and, and move forwards fast, down the road, and... saw a light, thought it was a light, lamp-post, (mumbles). A light went...I— had pulled wire ...and there was thick mist... very, very thick, and green...Lummy...and...no lights, an no — n — no noise... all around.
L.W: You went into the mist and then?

Based on drawing made by John of the "green mist" across the road, straddling the hedgerows and just beyond tree (see photo, page 17). Drawn on 15 August 1977

John: Into big room, er — a back on car, er, and told that children — er, two children all right. Not to worry.
L.W: Can you describe them (the beings)?
John: They were tall, and th—the—they were peaceful.
L.W: Their clothing?
John: One piece.
L.W: Colour?
John: No...Didn't seem to have colour.
L.W: Did you see their hair?
John: No hair, a — because they had hood.
L.W: Colour of their skin?
John: Very — very, trans... hollow looking.
L.W: Colour of eyes?
John: Pink.
L.W: Pink?
John: Very.
L.W: Did they speak English?
John: They didn't speak in my...didn't use words... was and I thought what they were saying.
L.W: How about the inside of this place you were in? Talk about it, describe it.
John: Grout (??) No lights but grey, and not very bright... horrible, but very restful, and no..oval. Very big, no doors.
L.W: How did the doors open?
John: They were just there.
L.W: How about furniture?
John: No, no only tables.
L.W: And they're made out of what. Wood?, Metal? Glass.
John: No, No, No, not soft, not hard. Peculiar.
L.W: What happens to you?
John: They just...they move a thick bar over me.
L.W: Describe that.
John: Just a flat bar, about 30 feet long (30 inches meant) 10 inches wide, not very thick...and honeycombed. Just moved along over me.
L.W: And what happened?
John: Vi-vibration.
L.W: Was the bar attached to any other piece of machinery?
John: Yea-a-a...yes, above.
L.W: Above, can you describe that?
John: Was — wasn't very big — just a rail — went up, don't know where to.
L.W: At any time while you're in this thing, do you look out of any windows or holes down on to the earth?
John: No, no, no windows.
L.W: How about breathing. Can you breath all right?
John: No recollection of actually...
L.W: Did you ask questions?
John: I asked — where from and they showed me...a map but not a map.
L.W: What do you mean by that?
John: Lines, and figures, and things.
L.W: Can you remember anything you saw on the map? Any figures? Any shapes?
John: Not fi...curly shapes, wavey shapes.
L.W: Numbers?
John: Peculiar, not like ours.
L.W: Did they tell you where they came from?
John: Only remember Phobos.

L.W: Phobos? What do you know about Phobos?
John: I've heard it...first time.
L.W: What do you think Phobos is?
John: Don't know.
L.W: Did you ask them where Phobos was?
John: They showed — I knew — they showed — things — Saturn.
L.W: They showed you things of Saturn?
John: They may, and know — and others I knew — to describe roughly where they were.
L.W: Did they say they came from Saturn?
John: No, no, they said — to give me some idea as to where they are. They travel very fast not like we accept — but very fast — almost instantaneous.
L.W: How do they do this? Did you ask?
John: Very, very, — can't understand. Something to do con...conversion with particles.
L.W: Did they mention ions at all?
John: I think so, I remember ions...electrons and other things. But I can't remember.
L.W: Tell me about this small being you saw aboard. You said it was different from the others. Was it in charge? Was it serving the others?
John: It was serving, I think it...they didn't seem to be aware of it there. No, they weren't taking any notice of it. It didn't use language it was chirps, noise. Not sharp noises.
L.W: And these beings did they have arms and legs?
John: Can't remember...er, er, which ones.
L.W: The tall ones.
John: They had arms and legs but they didn't seem to join...
L.W: Can you tell me more about this smaller being? How was it clothed?
John: Just fur, not like fur.
L.W: Like what?
John: Like fur, but not fur... I can't...
L.W: Is there anything else regarding this experience on board this vessel that you feel you would like to mention?
John: They said they need us...as hosts, and they know how, and they...help...and they (mumbles) and they are us.
L.W: They are us. Talk more about that. How can they be us? You understand that? Talk about it.
John: ...Won't let me (John then goes silent for over a minute).
L.W: Can you describe then John what happened after this experience and how you came out of the mist?
John: Remember house to the woods, and then car juddered...and normal. But we were very, very scared ...and got home very quick. Parked car...took children in, had to carry Karen and Stuart from...asleep. Went in and Elaine went...and said time was late, couldn't take that long to get home, and then we 'phoned up TIM...It were a long while...half past one.
L.W: What time should it have been?
John: Half past ten...wanted to watch programme on tele...and missed it.
L.W: What programme was it?
John: Can't remember. Play I think.
L.W: At that time, when you got home, did you have any memory of what had happened.
John: No.
L.W: When did you start to remember things?
John: Don't know, I think this year. Not sure.
L.W: What is your interpretation of what happened. Do you think?
John: Too long.
L.W: What do you mean too long?
John: Must be written (low voice).
L.W: O.K. Just rest John. Just relax.

That concluded the session. Dr. Wilder slowly brought John out of his state of hypnosis. This session was highly enlightening on the experience, but as you will see later on, this was only a small fraction of what actually did happen aboard the craft. Also you will see how various points are misinterpreted under hypnosis by the hypnotist.

Session 3 — Sunday October 16, 1977

On this occasion John persuaded Elaine to come along just to be an observer. All those who had attended the previous session attended this one with the addition, of course, of Elaine and Gordon Creighton's son, Philip.

The session was soon underway. Again, Dr. Wilder took John back through his childhood stopping at the ages of 10, 6, 3, then 1. John was then asked once more to go back to a time when he was someone else. After a false start, John started recalling how he was ploughing a field in 1640 under the name of Jim Dayliss. The most amazing thing was that he was speaking in a very, very broad country dialect.

After this, John was brought back in time and again asked to relive the experience with the green mist. He responded with a dramatic change in voice back to his normal London accent. John then started relating what had happened as they entered the mist as stated before. He said that he was aware of a light or beam moving about in the mist that cut through it. This beam he said was white in colour, and that the next thing he knew was that he was going up with this lihgt. Next thing they were in a very large room. John then related how he went off to be examined, but this will be described in full in the account in Part 3.

I then asked John whether they told him where they came from. He answered with "They said that it would not serve a purpose (in telling him where they came from?) and that knowing where they came from would not be helpful to us." I then asked how many types of people were in the craft. I will again take up parts of the transcript:—

John: One people...and examiner.
A. Collins: Examiner? Can you describe the examiner?
John: Smaller than ours...
A.C: What was he wearing?
John: Can't remember. Clothes, just not clear...
A.C: His face?
John: Not very nice.
A.C: Did he have any hair?
John: Er...I think so.
A.C: His eyes?

John: Big.
A.C: Did he have a mouth?
John: Not like ours.
A.C: What did he do?
John: Examined...operated the machine.
A.C: Did they take anything from you? Skin? Blood? Pieces of clothing? Hair?
John: No recollection.

After a few more questions on the tall beings John suddenly realised it was not Leonard Wilder talking to him. Dr. Wilder then had to explain to John that there was somebody else present who wanted to ask him a few questions. This was explained to John and I continued.

Again I questioned him about the tall beings. He said they were taller than him, about a head taller in height (this would make them about 6ft. 6in. high). "They had no mouths . . . . no need" He then said, "Or no visible mouths".

I then asked John to describe their propulsion system. "Very complicated, but the words I remember was Ion Magnetic . . . . they spun, they created . . .. they spin, vor-vo . . . ."

"Vortex?" I enquired.

"Vortex" he quickly backed up." They created Vortex on drive, and . . . ."

After a further few questions on the layout of the craft I asked him how many people were aboard, and he replied that he thought there were more, but he only had contact with three. No names were given as it wasn't necessary. Of these three only one communicated with John, answering any question asked. Further questions followed concerning the star maps and why they picked them for the abduction. Then when Leonard asked the purpose for their visit, John answered quickly: "No visit, they are here always".

"But why have they come here?" Leonard asked.

"To observe and to lead . . . through observation" was the reply.

Again the question of where they came from was put to him, but John once more said there was no need for them to say, and added that they have no need to return to where they came from. After these questions John's answers began to get vague with long gaps between questions and answers. I asked him if they were here all the time, and if so where they were. John replied that they were here always. Again I asked where.

"They have more than one base."

"Where?" I asked, but no answer. That was it, John answered no more questions. Dr. Wilder tried to ask him what was wrong but he received no response.

Dr. Wilder then slowly brought him out of the state of hypnosis. John had been hypnotised for a total of 55 minutes.

His first words after the hypnosis were that he had been blocked from saying anything during the final few minutes. He said it was as if they didn't mind him talking about his experience up to a certain point, but after that he felt he was being prevented from saying anything. When asked at which point this was, he said "After, I had been asked where the bases were."

This concluded the session, but on the way home Elaine suddenly said that she had an urge to paint a picture. I casually enquired as to what she was going to paint, and she answered a figure wearing a head-dress with a city behind him, and hills in the background. The man in the head-dress is holding something. This, of course, immediately fell into place as the subject of John's impression during the first hypnotic session. I turned to John and asked whether he had told Elaine of that impression and he said he had not.

I then told both of them to draw exactly what they could remember of the scene without the other seeing and give them to me the next time I called on them. This they did and the drawings were almost identical.

What these scenes actually were that were depicted, and their meaning, is explained in Part 3.

Notes on the hypnotic sessions

After John was brought out of a state of hypnosis at the third session, Leonard Wilder said that he did not think there was need for further sessions as it appeared more parts were being remembered after the sessions than during them. I agreed with this, although I thought one or two more sessions could have been very helpful. Elaine still did not want to be regressed although since then I now know her full story anyway.

During the descriptions of the second and especially the third regression, I have purposely omitted mentioning several vital descriptions and points concerning the inside of the craft. This is because all those points are included in the full account of events inside the craft, to be included in Part 3.

The hypnosis sessions were valuable in that they began the process of unburdening the witnesses' subconscious memories but I do not think that they were the main source of information in this case. Indeed more has been remembered since they took place, but for my money they militate against the idea that the Avis family got their heads together to perpetrate an almighty hoax.

[*The remarkable things remembered – what happened inside the craft – form the third part of this report* – EDITOR]

* * * * *

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YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

THE MAN-IN-BLACK SYNDROME...3

FOLLOW-UP ON THE MAINE UFO ENCOUNTER

*Berthold Eric Schwarz M.D.**

HEREIN continues the discussion of the alleged paranormal experiences of Dr. Herbert Hopkins, the physician who became involved in the investigation of the Maine UFO encounter/teleportation/contact case reported by David Stephens and a friend (see FSR Vol.22, No.2).

It was Dr. Hopkins who conducted the hynotic regression of David Stephens and recorded the sessions. It was the tapes of these sessions which were destroyed after the doctor had suffered a bizarre yet sinister man-in-black visitation described in Part I of this article.

7. Alleged psychic healings and related subjects

For his healing commission as a Spiritualistic minister, Dr. Hopkins turned in sixteen cases. None of the people he helped were aware that he was a physician, and no one paid him a fee. Some of his cases included a woman who had a chronic draining perforated eardrum, a woman who had non-union of a fractured thigh bone with insertion of a metal plate, a case of intractable, severe migraine, a woman with wide-spread dermatitis, a woman who had a lumbar cast because of three fractured vertebrae, and two patients with far advanced malignancy.

Alleged extraordinary results were obtained in all these cases through the mediumship of the physician-Spiritualist minister. In almost all these cases the people were under the care of their personal physicians, some of whom were known to Dr. Hopkins. However, in no instances were the physicians aware of Dr. Hopkins's role.

My short visit to Maine precluded possible interviews of the afflicted people who claimed the cures or of their physicians, and it was impossible to examine the data, including the X-rays. I hope, however, that at some future time this can be done, and if warranted, a report prepared for a medical journal. It is readily acknowledged that there are all kinds of claims for psychic or "miraculous" healings, but in most instances unfortunately the documentation is so poor and there are so many technical objections that the data is worthless. However, whatever the final interpretation of the Dr. Hopkins's cases, the cures were "real," both to him, a skilled physician, and to the people who were helped.

It is hoped that this study can be undertaken with safeguards that protect Dr. Hopkins from people expecting "miracles" and yet which adhere to tough scientific standards.[20] Perhaps it might shed some light on the possible modus operandi of poorly documented alleged UFO healings[21] and alleged healings by the late Brazilian peasant Arigo,[22] as studied by physician Andrija Puharich, and the even more controversial fraud-tinged Philippine psychic surgeons.[23]

It is stressed that Dr. Hopkins disclaimed any knowledge of this and related literature, and as a matter of fact was surprised when I asked him about the possible relationship of the disappearing coin and his earlier healing of a fractured case, where a metal plate allegedly disappeared, as confirmed by X-rays.

When Dr. Hopkins and his wife were asked about possible telesomatic[24,25] experiences (telepathically precipitated psychosomatic reaction), they could at first recall nothing. Then, as is often the case in interviews of this kind, Dr. Hopkins remembered how, at the end of the Silva Mind Control Course both he and his wife had to "work" ten cases successfully. "Both Madeline and I, as well as the majority of others got ten out of ten on the first try. The case card is filled out with all the data known regarding some particular individual with a serious disorder; minor disorders are not used. For testing, three people sit together – the monitor holds the card, the scribe who writes down what the psychic says about the patient. The monitor is handed the card in a sealed envelope with a cut-out (a window that shows the name, address, age and sex of the patient). The monitor reads only this information to the psychic taking the test and without removing the card from the envelope, to prevent telepathy. The cards are carefully screened so that the monitor does not get the card of someone he or she may know or have heard about. The psychic then goes into the so-called Alpha State which is taught by Silva Mind Control and then proceeds to give the physical description of the patient which is recorded by the scribe. Then the physical and emotional problems are described by the psychic and recorded by the scribe. After this is all done, the sealed envelope containing the card is opened and the answers are compared with the facts as stated on the card. If the information given essentially matches that on the card, as well as other information not on the card which may be later verified, the psychic is given 'one point.' Ten points results in the award of a certificate.

"Madeline's first 'case' was that of a Mongoloid child (male). She said she had a sudden sensation of feeling very cold and uneasy and complained that she had goose-pimples all over. Then she blurted out – 'Oh, that child – there is something wrong – it is going to die soon. Oh, it is a Mongoloid – take it away quickly!' Because of her state of agitation she

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was 'awakened' to give her release from this case. The envelope was opened and on the reverse side of the card was the single word – Mongoloid!"

Before leaving the subject of alleged beneficial paranormal influences of disease, comment might be made about possible telepathic or clairvoyant perception of illness. Throughout the years Dr. Hopkins has often made out-of-the-ordinary diagnoses where he just intuitively knew what was wrong with his patient. In particular, he recalled one clinically excellent example where he told the attending surgeon and his colleagues that his acutely ill patient had an inflamed Meckel's diverticulum. This diagnosis is almost never made clinically, and it is frequently confused with appendicitis. However, because of the patient's worsening condition, the surgeon decided to explore the abdomen, and found just what Dr. Hopkins said he would. With good humour Dr. Hopkins remarked that his colleagues have often said, "When Herb says the patient has such and such, don't argue with him."

8. Out-of-the-body Experiences (OOBE)

Dr. Hopkins felt that with time he would be able to induce out-of-the-body experiences which he characterized as disappointing: "I can go someplace and see remarkable things, but when I come back it is more or less like a dream and I forget a good part of it. It is like trying to recall a dream in totality." He could cite no specific examples other than saying that everything was quite mundane. He had never had a spontaneous experience. Nor had he attempted OOBE with a patient.[26]

When I interviewed Dr. and Mrs. Hopkins, the wife recalled a spontaneous example where she left her body and visited a patient of her husband's who was quite ill with multiple sclerosis: "Gretchen couldn't come up for her injections so she asked if I could go down and give it to her. She was lying on the couch and couldn't get up or do anything that day. Anyway, about supper time I said, 'Gee, I've got to do something about her.' So I sat down and started meditating and saying: 'Now, Gretchen, you're going to feel better and you are going to make your supper. You are going to do the dishes.' About fifteen minutes later, she phoned and said, 'Madeline, the funniest thing happened. While I was lying on the couch, I saw you standing by it with your hands out, and you told me to get up, make my supper, and do the dishes, and that I'd be alright.' "

Mrs. Hopkins recalled an involuntary OOBE that she had with her husband. She was upstairs and he was downstairs, reading a medical journal, late at night. She said: "I floated down and read the title of an article he was reading, then floated upstairs and re-entered my body. I sat up again, physically intact, and came downstairs. In the meantime my husband had turned the page, and I told him that I saw what he was reading a little while ago, and asked if he had seen me. He said, 'No.' Then I told him what he was reading and gave the exact title of the article. When he turned back the page to check, the title was correct.

9. Dr. Hopkins' strange encounter with time

Dr. Hopkins does not recall a specific date for this occurrence, but it happened after the hypnosis sessions with David Stephens, and after his visit from the MIB (September 11, 1976). Dr. Hopkins stresses that all the clocks are electric ones.

As told to Shirley Fickett by Dr. Hopkins: "I normally get up at the customary time and don't really depend on an alarm clock. Upon awakening, I looked at the bedroom clock and because of the time, thought I'd awakened several hours too early. I then looked at my watch and that gave a different time: from the bedroom electric clock, by a number of hours.

"I called my wife and asked the right time and according to the kitchen clock, it was a different time from both my watch and the clock in the bedroom.

"Wide awake, I dressed and went down stairs to observe the clock in the family room where the hypnosis sessions with David Stephens had occurred). The family room clock was four hours ahead of the kitchen clock which also proved to be an hour fast ... (Watch was slow).

"I then tried to establish some correct time and went to the laboratory in the cellar to discover that the clock was not as far ahead as the clock in the family room. We had nothing to go by to establish time and I then went around and re-set all the electric clocks as well as my watch."

About this incident Dr. Hopkins observed that maybe someone was trying to get through to him and to try and prove that there is no such thing as time.

10. Credo

When Dr. Hopkins had finished critically reviewing this manuscript, he sent me a gracious letter with some comments and a most meaningful and revealing paragraph about himself. "I ultimately found what I was looking for in Spiritualism as long as I could keep away from some of the emotionalism involved and from many who claimed the ability of mediumship but who were obviously fraudulent. Indeed I have met some genuine Mediums but they are few and far between. I have taken the tests and have demonstrated mediumship abilities, but prefer not to use it unless backed into a corner, so to speak. Mediumship is simply not something you can switch on or off like an electric light and most of the time it cannot be induced at all. Giving spontaneous 'readings' to everyone or anyone who asks is just so much baloney as far as I am concerned. These are personal feelings that I do not express in most cases for obvious reasons. Nevertheless I am happy to be a Spiritualist for its philosophy and the freedom of thought it encourages without the encumberances of a binding and unthinking Creed. Each man to his own."

Summary

The Hopkins family's MIB experience raises many questions. However, it would seem to be unique

because of the high credibility factor for all the involved people, and also because the data was almost immediately recorded by a physician of vastly superior intelligence, sensitivity and presumed psychic talents. It is hoped that, despite the acknowledged shortcomings of the anecdotal data and obvious need for more intensive study, this report will serve to put the spotlight squarely on this too-neglected aspect of ufology, so that other investigators, including behavioural scientists and particularly psychiatrists, using a variety of techniques, will not offhandedly cast such material aside but will show serious interest and probe the manifold, complex, interrelated factors.

It is shameful that aside from Gray Barker's *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers* (University Books, New Yor, 1956), and John A. Keel's many articles in FSR and his *Operation Trojan Horse* (G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1970), after all these years, still so little concerted effort has been devoted to the MIB syndrome, when it could be a practical and accessible area for study. It is noted that 2 years after Barker's book, the *Proceedings of the 1976 CUFOS Conference* (Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Illinois, 1976) had nothing on the MIB problem. Certainly this is part of the UFO mystery; and if investigators are not to find themselves in the trap of the blind men and the elephant, all parts of the UFO anatomy must be responsibily explored. Perhaps the terror and confusion, as is evident in the Hopkins case, as much as the conscious and unconscious resistance of various investigators to such way-out material, has accounted for part of this unfortunate stalemate.

In truth, if I over the years hadn't personally known August C. Roberts, a leading figure in the earlier Barker book, and John A. Keel, as well as others, I too would probably not have paid serious attention to their reports and other similar published material, because it would have been easier to ignore this vital human part of the equation to many close UFO sightings. It is long overdue for duly qualified investigators to come to grips with the psychic, MIB, and psychopathological part of the UFO mystery.

Notes and References

20. Schwarz, B.E.: UFO Contactee Stella Lansing: "Possible Medical Implications of Her Motion Picture Experiment", *Journal of the American Society of Psychosomatic Dentistry and Medicine,* Vol. 23 (No.2): 60–68, 1976.

21. For references to various UFO alleged healings and injuries, see my chapter entitled "Psychiatric and Parapsychiatric Aspects of UFOs," in Haines, Richard, F., Editor: "UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist," unpublished manuscript.

22. Fuller, J.G.: *Arigo: Surgeon of the Rusty Knife,* Thomas Y. Crowell, New York, 1973.

23. Sherman, H.: *Wonder Healers of the Phillippines,* De Vorss & Co., Los Angeles, 1967.

24. Schwarz, B.E.: "Possible Telesomatic Reactions," *The Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey,* Vol. 64 (No. 11): 600–603, November, 1967.

25. Schwarz, B.E.: "Clinical Studies on Telesomatic reactions," *Medical Times,* Vol. 101 (No. 2): 71–76, December, 1973.

26. The following vignette might illustrate the synchronicity-psi interplay culminating in this example with a spontaneous possible psi physician-patient visit. On November 13, 1958, during my studies of the nonagenarian paragnost Jacques Romano (see *The Jacques Romano Story,* University Books, Inc., New Hyde Park, New York, 1968, 243 pp.), I was driving him through the Lincoln Tunnel from his home in New York to my office in New Jersey when he told me several highly specific items about one of the surgeon guests, PC, who would be at my home later that evening. This was startling because I had hardly met PC before, and of course Romano never knew him. Needless to say, of the people at the party Romano "selected" PC for what turned out to be a highly successfull "spirit reading." Furthermore, Romano told PC's wife that at that moment her coat was being mended. The doctor and his wife couldn't believe this, so, to satisfy their curiosity, Mrs. C. telephoned her home and immediately verified Romano's assertion. The psychic and psychodynamics became more intriguing when the surgeon later said, in the presence of everyone, that he himself had had many presumed telepathic experiences with patients, and then he recalled one possible precognitive dream of his own from approximately 1940.

In his dream, PC sent to the Aqueduct Racetrack and bought a selector's form from Longshot Tex, who told him all the winners. The dream was so vivid and impressive that PC went to the racetrack the next day with his sister-in-law. He told her about his dream on the train. When they got off: "There in the corner was Longshot Tex. He had five cards in his hand. I bought one. I had been going to the races for many years, but I had never seen or heard of him before. There were seven races in the card. He had two choices, first and second – every one of his horses that day ran first or second. My sister-in-law made a fortune. I chickened out. I couldn't believe it. Shortly afterwards I returned to Aqueduct and asked if anyone had seen Longshot Tex. Finally someone said, 'He's a stranger around here, and we haven't seen him in a long time.' " On three subsequent occasions PC asked about Longshot Tex, only to receive the same answer.

Now, as it happened, PC had chronic, severe, intractable rheumatic valvular heart disease. Years after I met him, he was taken one day to the intensive care unit of the local hospital in severe congestive heart failure. His cardiologist felt that all had been done that could be done and that heart surgery was out of the question. PC, wondering if anxiety could be contributing to his heart arrythmia and clonic calf contractions, called me in to see if I could think of something that would help him. I reviewed his chart and spent some time with him and made some recommendations for an anticonvulsant. His condition was grave and he continued to deteriorate. Finally, his cardiologist told PC's wife that there was only a short time left. The wife, who was a nurse, sought my help because of her husband's imminent death and the expected traumatic effects on the family. She even told me about funeral arrangements.

The night of PC's expected death I had a dream where I was actually at his bedside in the hospital and saw him in vivid colour and detail. I knew he had rallied and was going to make it. When I went in the next day to see him, this indeed was the case. His wife and cardiologist were astounded. PC subsequently showed sufficient improvement for later heart surgery, from which he had complications and unfortunately did not recover. In our visits after the crisis he never mentioned the experience, but as I asked him questions, it seemed that I might have correctly appraised the nuances of his improved situation.

Thus, in this case the overdetermined emotional needs of the physician-patient, his family, and other consultants, including me, might have been intertwined and precipitated the unexpected rally. However, in

addition to all the obvious wish-fulfilling psychodynamics and subliminal factors, the interaction of possible unconscious travelling clairvoyance (similar to OOBE; also see "Built-in Controls and Postulates for the Telepathic Event," *Corrective Psychiatry* and *the Journal of Social Therapy*, Vol. 12 (No.2): 64–82, March, 1966), should not be discounted as a factor in his rally. Could PC, a natural sensitive, the one Romano "chose" years ago for a psychic demonstration, plus PC's (and his family's) psi experiences have made him a suitable candidate for his therapeutic result? This example, minus any UFO angle, is otherwise similar to Dr. Hopkins' previous psi experiences and his development of vulnerability to the MIB syndrome. It demonstrates the need for cautious, careful, detailed probing before jumping to any unwarranted premature conclusions about causation, etc. (See my case entitled "The Revival Meeting" (pp. 221-223) in Possible Geriatric Telepathy, *Journal of the American Geriatric Society*, Vol. XXI (No.5): 216-223, 1973).

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

From the Earl of Clancarty

Dear Sir,—I have just received the latest *Flying Saucer Review* (Vol. 23, No.5) which is a splendid issue as usual, but I can't understand why you have included that rather disparaging piece in World Round-up.

As it happens I have finished up by having a big success with my five questions for written answer about UFOs in the House of Lords. It is true that initially my first two questions based on Monsieur Galley's broadcast interview brought from both Lord Winterbottom and Lord Harris (for the Ministry of Defence and Home Office, respectively) negative replies, in that they both denied any knowledge of the broadcast.

However, my third question to put it briefly, was asking H.M. Government whether they were aware that a unit for the scientific study of UFOs had been set up in the National Centre for Space Studies in Toulouse, under Monsieur Claude Poher, and that this unit was now sponsored by the French Ministry of Industry. I got a satisfactory reply from Lord Donaldson (Minister of State, Dept. of Education & Science). He replied: H.M. Government understand that a study group called the Groupe d'Etudes sur les Phénomènes Aerospatiales Non-Identifies (GEPAN) has been set up under the French Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Artisans, at the National Centre for Space Studies in Toulouse.

I then fired in my fourth question which was really asking HGM to think again about their replies to my first two. I pointed out that there was a book available to the public called *The Crack in the Universe* by Jean-Claude Bourret, the interviewer of Monsieur Galley, and that the transcript of the interview was in the book. Lord Winterbottom for the Ministry of Defence replied that they would try and obtain an official transcript of the broadcast interview.

That was just before the Christmas recess. Some days ago I put down my fifth question asking if HMG had now obtained the official transcript of the broadcast. Yesterday, the date the latest FSR arrived, I got a reply from Lord Winterbottom stating that they now had obtained the official transcript of the broadcast!

So you see, I got a good answer from Lord Donaldson about the unit in Toulouse, and after much perseverence got the Ministry of Defence to admit they had now got the official transcript of M. Galley's interview which of course means that they have had to concede that it did take place. All these questions and answers were published in Hansard.

I am beginning to find quite a number of Peers interested in the UFO subject.

You will be glad to know that the Chief Librarian at the House of Lords came up to me on Thursday and told me that they had considered my request to take FSR in to the Library, and that it had been decided to do so.

Yours etc.,
Clancarty,
London SW1
11 March 1978.

[*Admittedly the* **Evening Standard** *item, gently poking fun, was old hat, but it has served a purpose for it will be interesting to see whether or not the newspaper prints a follow-up to show what Lord Clancarty (the former Brinsley le Poer Trench) has achieved by his persistent questions in the House of Lords* – EDITOR]

[**P.S.** *Which is just what the Evening Standard did, generously, in virtually the same terms as in Lord Clancarty's letter, on March 14, 1978* – EDITOR]

The benign beings of CEIIIK

Dear Sir,—With the release of the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* it seems that Ufology has entered a new phase of general acceptance as a legitimate subject for serious thought. There should now be a more deliberate shifting of emphasis from study of the vehicles to study of the occupants. The film has done no service to mankind in presenting these beings as benign.

To me the present situation seems analogous to that at the time of the European expansion into the Americas. Instead of falling around in wonderment at the tall white "Unidentified Sailing Objects" and their "Godlike" crews, the Amerindians would have been better advised to have recognised the first signs of European rapacity...and taken to the hills.

Perhaps Ufology should now revert to its ancient name – Demonology.

Yours sincerely,
M. Sweetman,
Eng.Lt. R.N. (Rtd.)
Elmside, Fernleigh Road,
Plymouth PL3 5AN
February 14, 1978.

[*FSR attempted to start the shift from study of the "machines" to a study of the occupants with the publishing of* **The Humanoids** *in 1966 and in expanded form in 1969. The emphasis since then in the pages of FSR has been on the occupant reports, with no punches pulled. This line has been continued in* **Encounter Cases from Flying Saucer Review** *(Signet Books, New York, December 1977) which presents a very different picture from CEIIIK* – EDITOR].

That Morayshire entity

Dear Sir,—I refer to an article in *The Sun* newspaper of 20 February 1978. The article was amongst others in a series on the film *Close Encounters.*

The clipping concerns the sighting you reported in FSR, Vol. 23, No. 4, page 7.

Now, I know stories can get distorted, but *The Sun* version is so inaccurate that it could, to a casual reader, give the impression that your report and their version are of completely different incidents.

The differences are:—

1. *'The Sun'* story says a gang of boys alerted the girls to the UFO. Your report makes no mention of other witnesses except for the mothers hearing the noise.

2. *The Sun* story states that the saucer had a bump on the top which *flashed* orange/red; your report says the saucer had a red light which was steady and *didn't* flash.

3. *The Sun* story states that the witness, Karen, forgot about the incident until the next morning, and it was then that she reported it to her mother. Your report states that Karen immediately informed her mother and she phoned the police then and there.

I have no reason to doubt the facts in your version of this particular incident, as all of your reports and investigations are of a very high standard and are always verified by numerous sources.

I don't know where *The Sun* got their information on this incident as it's totally inaccurate, and if this is the best they can do in informing the public about the UFO phenomenon, where precise facts are essential, then they shouldn't bother, and leave the reporting to specialised publications such as yours.

Keep up the good work in FSR.
Yours sincerely,
S. Chetwynd,
39 Albany Road, Old Windsor,
Berks.
February 20, 1978.

[**The Sun** *learned the story from* **Flying Saucer Review,** *for it was in one of the magazines given to Miss Sue Freeman when she interviewed me. Miss Freeman was later in touch with Jenny Randles, who had conducted the investigation in a series of telephone calls to the mother and girls. The police were also consulted, and UFOIN and FSR stand by the facts as obtained by them. The newspaper obviously sent a representative to meet the witnesses; whether or not some "embroidering" of the facts took place is hard to say*—EDITOR]

Time travelling UFOs?

Dear Mr. Bowen,—Would you be so kind as to allow me a few words in reply to reader S. Brighton's letter re Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity in FSR Vol.23, No.4?

Yes, I have read the Special Theory, although it would be presumptuous of me to say I fully understand it, but I cannot quite see its precise connection with Time-Travelling as such.

Astronauts leave Earth, reach a speed near to that of light, and then return to find that their three-months' voyage has taken, say, three centuries of Earth time. They have landed back on future Earth but they cannot go back to their own natural times. As Dr. Carl Sagan puts it in his book, *The Cosmic Connection:* "According to Special Relativity...there is no possibility in this way of travelling backward in time; we can merely make time slow down, we cannot make it stop or reverse."

All the same, it would again be presumptuous of me to assume that the Special Theory may not eventually lead to a fuller understanding of the "mechanics" (for want of a better word) of real Time-Travel.

The main justification for suggesting that UFOs may be Time-Travel machines, as stated in my article in FSR Vol.21, No.6, is that the invention of such a machine is inevitable at some point in the future. Technological achievement in the last hundred years has been quite phenomenal; who can guess what wonders even the next one thousand years will produce?

I am,
Yours sincerely,
S.E. Priest,
136 Palatine Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 6JN
February 13, 1978

FROM OUR CORSICAN NOTEBOOK..1

J.C. Dufour & P de Lormont

Specially prepared for *Flying Saucer Review* Translation from the French by Gordon Creighton

THE island of Corsica, with its rugged relief and a population that is concentrated principally in the coastal towns, could not fail to be a terrain of predilection for the UFO phenomenon.

The Corsican inhabitants are like their own soil — proud, rugged, gruff, and suspicious of the stranger. This explains how very difficult it has been for us for us to secure the few sighting reports which we give below.

1: Over the gulf of St. Florent

One of the first of the Corsican sightings, one that has been well described, and the witnesses of which it has been possible for us to trace, is the case in the Gulf of St. Florent (No.1 on the map.)

The date is June 18, 1966; it is 4.00 a.m. and the clear, limpid sky gives promise of a lovely day.

Two fishermen from the coastal village of Saint-Florent are out in their boat on the Gulf of the same name, and are engaged in taking in their net. This is delicate work, calling for sustained attention if you don't want to see a whole working day lost, as well as some expensive equipment. Behind them, towards the south-east, the bare crests of the Bastian Range of mountains stand out against the sky.

A terrifying apparition

One of the fishermen, Volelli, straightens up for a moment to take a breather. And then he perceives, above the saddle in the mountains known as the Col de Teghime, three aluminium-coloured discs flying in a triangular formation towards the north-east. They have passed the crests of the range and, while travelling at the speed of a jet aircraft, they are all the time changing places in the formation; the one on the left moves into first place, the one on the right moves to the left, and so on... Dumbfounded, Vollelli shouts to his companion, Scotto: "Look! What is it?"

And as the second fisherman stands and observes this unwonted sight the three discs change course and begin to head straight for the witnesses. The discs are very low now — not more than 200 metres above the water, say the fishermen. They both throw themselves flat in the bottom of the boat and utter a

prayer to the Madonna to save them. Volelli is the first to look up again, and sees, to his vast relief, that the formation of UFOs are changing course again and now heading towards the north-west.

Landing in the French Maritime Alps

A few minutes later, some of the residents of the village of Bar-sur-Loup (near the town of Grasse, in the Maritime Alps, on the French Mainland, just north of Nice), including Monsieur Barbier, the mayor, see a disc land on the top of a hill covered with scrub. The mysterious object leaves burn-marks there on the vegetation. While it is of course not possible to affirm as certain that this disc is one of those that had just flown across Corsica, nevertheless the coincidence in time is worth noting, for Bar-sur-Loup lies right on the prolongation of the course on which the UFOs were last seen to be travelling.

2: Gavignano ... Physical and Physiological Effects

At about 9.00 p.m. on July 21, 1973, Monsieur Yves Rinaldi, aged 35, manager of the firm *A Casa di L'Artigiani* in Bastia, is driving in his car along departmental highway No. 139, a route little frequented at this hour of the day, even though it is a Saturday evening.

It is a winding road, running through mountain terrain covered with scrub, with only a few deserted shepherds' huts along it, and leading to the village of Saliceto, where Monsieur Rinaldi's parents live. They are the keepers of an inn.

About 2½ km before reaching the village, he overtakes a *Citroen 2 CV* labouring up the slope, which is pretty steep here.

About 20 seconds later he feels himself "paralyzed" by an unknown force; his car stops instantly, his lights go out, and his radio dies. He is unable to move; an intense sensation of cold overcomes him. His eyes begin to water, and he is sure that his final hour has arrived.

A disc as bright as the Sun

At this moment he perceives, right ahead of him in the scrub, and seemingly rising from the ground, an extremely brightly shining object — "as bright as the Sun" he calls it — shooting upwards and spinning at a fantastic rate as it does so. **Rinaldi, unable to turn his head, nevertheless "sees"(!) the UFO pass over his car and continue on its way behind him.**

When we recorded and reported this case we had not yet heard of similar reports.

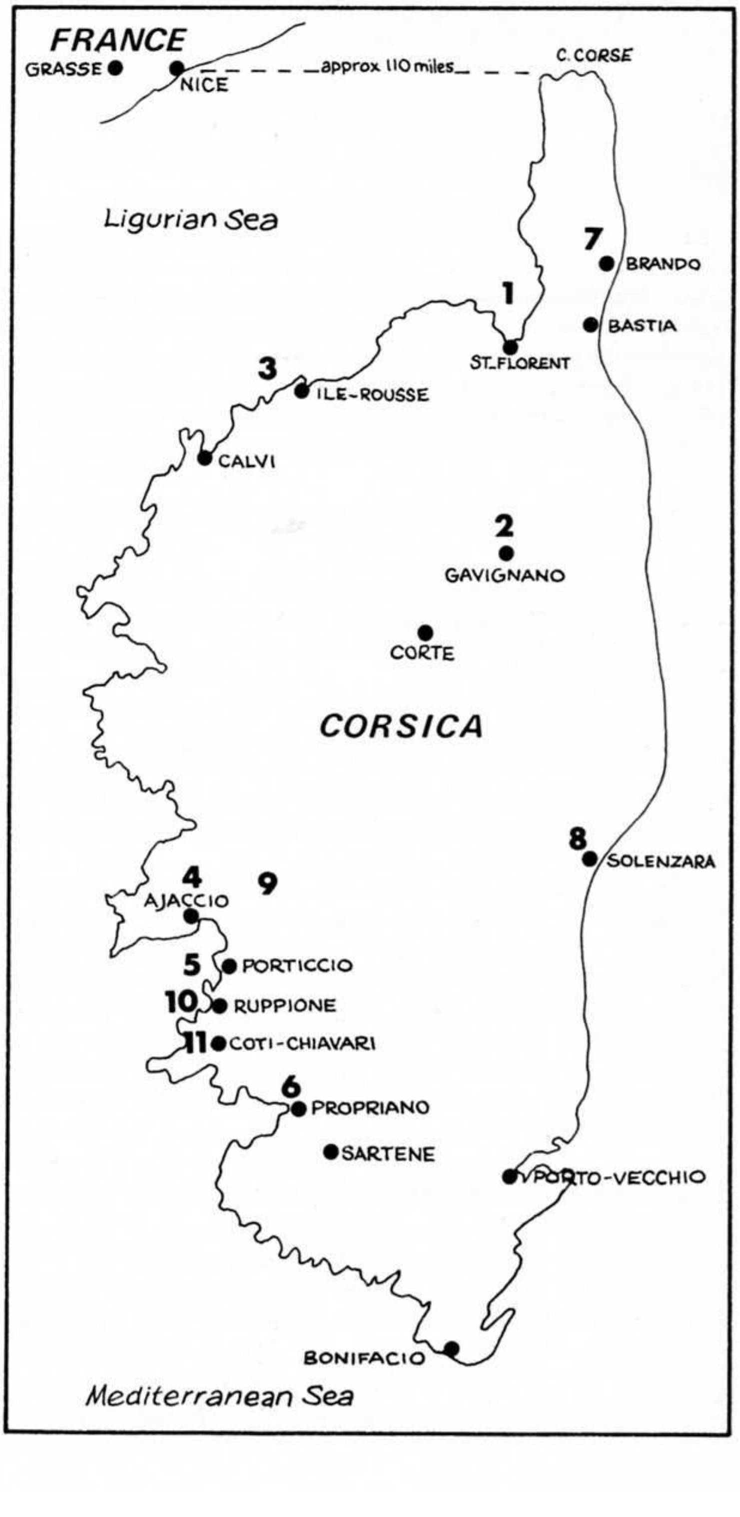
The car starts up again on its own

As soon as the UFO is out of sight, the engine of the car starts up again without the witness having any recollection of having activated the ignition. His lights come on again, his radio starts to work again, and the car moves forward once more.

Let us just consider for a moment: when the driver is immobilized and the engine stops, the car is in second gear. When, for example, a car is going downhill, the weight of the vehicle alone can start up the engine, the ignition key already being switched on. This is what occurs sometimes when we want to spare our battery and we "coast" downhill. On the other hand however, when you are going uphill and a gear is already engaged, the car would have to remain stalled on the spot, whatever the position of the ignition key. The least unreasonable hypothesis that comes to mind is as follows: Monsieur Rinaldi did in fact execute the movements that every trained driver performs instinctively: disengage — neutral — switch on — into first — handbrake off, and go... but his conscious mind was temporarily switched off due to the proximity of the UFO.

Understandably upset

Half an hour later, Monsieur Rinaldi arrived at his parents' home and, still upset and suffering from



the effect of an understandable shock, told them about his experience. The driver of the 2 CV that he had overtaken arrived, and he confirmed what Rinaldi had said. This other man however had not experienced the "physiological effects," and his vehicle had functioned normally, but this was because he had been more than 300 metres behind Rinaldi.

3: Ile-Rousse... the cone-shaped object

The date is December 23, 1973, at 5.00 o'clock in the morning. It is still dark, and an icy little wind is blowing down from the mountains. A resident of Calvi, Monsieur Folacci, a seafaring man, is out hunting with a friend. The stars are shining overhead in a cloudless sky.

Let us hear Monsieur Folacci in his own words:

"Suddenly we noticed, in the direction of Ile-Rousse, a cone-shaped object twice the apparent size of a full moon, with three sparkling antennae disposed fan-wise. I think the thing was at a considerable distance from us, but all the details on it were very clearly visible and the antennae showed up quite distinctly.

"The body of the object was of a vivid yellow colour, with red and green flashes on the sides. It was moving around over a definite, determined area, describing spirals, and then stopping. There was no sound from it. Believe me, it was no aircraft, no sonde-balloon, nor anything natural! I am a navigator by profession: I have much experience of the sky and of its phenomena. I was not scared — just slightly uneasy... you know, I think it was a 'flying saucer'.

4 and 5: Luminous objects in the skies over Ajaccio and Porticcio

We are only mentioning these sightings for the sake of the record, because they present no great interest as regards details or as regards the behaviour of the objects observed.

At 9.00 p.m. on January 3, 1974, a number of persons residing at Porticcio, on the southern shore of the Gulf of Ajaccio, observe a "luminous white ball" moving about at 30^{o} above the sea, in a due westerly direction. The duration of the sighting is for about four or five seconds.

At 9.15 p.m. on January 5, 1974, an Ajaccio businessman, Monsieur Guigonnis, sees a "luminous banana" pass over the Gulf and then back again. He said the object came from the west and departed again towards the west after having remained stationary for a few seconds over Ajaccio. It gave out a humming soumd, like the noise of an electric motor. Its movement was slow, about the same as that of a dirigible balloon.

6: UFO-festival over Propriano

This time it is some amateur fisherman who are the observers of an unwonted phenomenon.

Monsieur Sylvain Gozes and Monsieur Claude Blan are businessmen from Monaco. On Monday, March 18, 1974, they had set out on a fishing expedition to the river Rizzanese at the Capo-Lavoroso Beach (a name to remember) 2 km to the south of the town of Propriano.

Here is Monsieur Sylvain Gozes' story:—

"At 10.45 p.m. we saw a sort of green rocket fall from the sky towards the sea, to the west. The object had a luminous trail behind it, also green, composed of little green points of light. We were surprised at the sudden apparition, but we were soon equally intrigued when a great luminous globe appeared in the sky which — and we emphasise this — was perfectly clear, without a cloud. The sphere was of considerable size — say, comparable to the full Moon, and changed colour from yellow to red and then from red to green. We think the thing would have been at a height of between 6,000 and 10,000 metres. It was flying in a zigzag fashion, making sudden lateral leaps of 500 metres or so at a time. Its trajectory was in the shape of a reversed "Z". When it started to climb, its trajectory took the shape of a vast "Z". We watched the phenomenon for over an hour, and then returning to Propriano. When we left, the thing was still performing its evolutions in the sky."

Next morning, the two witnesses went to the Gendarmerie to make their statement.

Not a distress signal

No distress signal (which might have explained the 'green rocket') had been fired that night by any passing ship. As for the luminous sphere, both its type of movement and the length of the sighting rule out the "reassuring" explanations, such as: a signal rocket; an artificial satellite; or a meteorite. It is a pity that our two amateur fishermen did not stay there longer to observe the further course of events.

7: The dazzling UFO over Cape Corse

Unlike the six cases given above, the ballet dance of a UFO in the skies over Cape Corse (extreme northern trip of Corsica) was seen by some twenty witnesses, who observed it from different angles.

On Sunday, July 7, 1974, Monsieur "R", a teacher living in the village of Partine, in the commune of Sta. Maria di Lota, was on the terrace adjoining his house, together with his wife, his son, and his daughter-in-law. Four witnesses, all trustworthy people.

This is what Monsieur "R" told us:—

"It was about 8.50 p.m. Our attention was drawn to a luminous yellow spot which was moving over the sea towards the Isle of Elba (i.e. towards the N.E.) It could not have been an aircraft, it had no flashing lights. Moreover it was travelling far more quickly than any jet 'plane.

"When right over Elba it halted for a while, climbed vertically some hundreds of metres, and then came back towards Corsica at a staggering speed, heading in the direction of the village of Grigione. The intensity of its brightness now gradually grew more and more powerful, from the equivalent, say, of a 40-watt bulb to the brightness of the Sun itself! It was blinding. All we could see was this intense light; no structure. It remained at this level of incandescence for about five minutes, and then the intensity of its light began to wane, and it started to move away slowly towards Bastia, in the South,

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Artwork: Pauline Bowen

finally vanishing behind the mountain which, from where we are, serves as a screen and hides Bastia from us."

The witness detected no sound such as would be characteristic for an aircraft engine. They regularly see the airliners passing over every day towards the Bastia-Poretta Airport, and they are categorical and emphatic: this object in no way resembled an aeroplane.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the mountain, other people picked up the sighting.

At Toga, a southern suburb of Bastia, some witnesses describe the following spectacle, as observed by them:

"We saw an extremely luminous object appear, moving along horizontally and resembling a big star. Five or six seconds later the intensity of its brightness began to increase, while all the time the thing was still moving away towards the south. Making absolutely no sound, it vanished from our sight behind a building. An instant later it came in sight again, between two houses, and then it was hidden again."

Monsieur Jean Marchioni, a municipal employee in Bastia, where he resides in the suburb of Cardo, described it as follows:—

"I had a very clear view of the thing. It looked like a star, and was travelling very fast. It vanished for a few seconds, and then came back from the direction of the sea towards the land. Its size was now bigger, and the intensity of its brightness was greater. It seemed to be spinning on its own axis. It vanished over the mountains towards the west, in the direction of St. Florent."

However that was not the last sighting of it. At about 10.55 p.m. some residents of Ile-Rousse saw a vividly bright object coming from the east and heading due west.

We might point out that at 8.50 p.m. in July, in Corsica, it is still daylight. Had the light been on some larger material structure the latter would have been seen by the witnesses.

8: Did a UFO pass over the NATO Air Base?

On March 11, 1974, Air Base No. 126 at Solenzara is visited by a mysterious aerial object... which nevertheless remains at a prudent distance. This airfield is a NATO base, where there are permanently stationed not only French fighter aircraft but also elements of the Belgian Air Force and German aircraft as well. Between 7.00 and 8.00 p.m. on the evening in question, some soldiers observe a bright orange object, of the apparent size of a star, slowly moving to and fro over the military airfield. The soldiers watched it for about an hour, and then it moved off southwards, heading straight towards the village of Solenzara.

This UFO — for a UFO it seems to have been — was also seen over a firing range some 30 kilometres from the NATO airfield (and a report on it was compiled by the Airborne Gendarmerie). But the UFO was not seen by anyone over the course it would have had to follow to reach Solenzara, so one may wonder whether perhaps it "volatilized" in the interval?

UFO, or sonde-balloon? We seem to be on the borderline with this case, and it is hard to decide which to opt for.

9: Peri ... a ball of fire

We have no exact date for this sighting. We only know that it took place some time in August 1974, on the Peri plain, 15 km to the east of Ajaccio, and not far from National Highway No. 193.

The witnesses were some children who were playing near the bed of the river Gravone, by an abandoned quarry. They are supposed to have seen "a very red ball of fire rise up from the ground and disappear towards Sarrola and Carcopino" (towards the west).

10: Propriano again

Our attention was caught by an article in the Corsican edition of the newspaper *Le Provencal* for November 21, 1974.

The article described a UFO sighting at Propriano on November 19, 1974, by Monsieur J.M. Arnaud, Monsieur N. Guiddelmoni, and various other persons.

We at once went to Propriano and called upon Monsieur Arnaud who, along with various other witnesses, gave us an account of what had happened. Here it is:—

"Shortly before 10.00 p.m., Nando Guiddelmoni came to tell me that there was a luminous object moving around over Mount Capo-di-Loco, on the flanks of which the village of Belvedere is located. He had seen the thing when he was going to the beach at Capo Lavoroso (this place has already been mentioned under Case 6). Another friend and I went off with him to have a look at it, as I said to myself that you can't have too many witnesses in this sort of business.

"In order to get an unobstructed view, we took up our positions on the beach. It was a completely dark night, for there was no Moon. On the other hand however what we beheld was a luminous object at least three times the size of the full Moon, circular, orange in colour, and very bright indeed, stationary in the sky over the village of Belvedere. The glow from the object was so powerful that it lit up the whole village of Belvedere, as well as the surrounding scrubland. The object was quite silent. The object would suddenly halt in its flight, and then start off again after remaining stationary for two or three seconds. Its colour and its size remained unchanged. After fifteen minutes or so it seemed to approach us and it flew low over the hamlet of Portigliolo (on the coast, south of Propriano). At any rate we had the impression that it was flying lower, because its diameter had increased. We began to feel a bit scared."

From sphere to disc

"Then the object headed towards the sea, always

very low against the horizon, indeed to such a point that, as it passed over, it lit up the waters of the Gulf of Valinco (on which Propriano stands). The sphere passed in between us and Cape Capomoro, so we think it was not more than 2 km from us. Then the object began to change gradually to the shape of a lens, like a big convex disc. Then it became stationary over the sea, and came down and touched the sea. Then it shot straight up into the sky again, and then came down again, and so on, like that, many times. Finally, after having risen up once more, it seemed to make off towards the village of Campomoro and "jumped over" the mountain and vanished behind it, but we were able to continue to follow its glow for several seconds afterwards. All these movements had been performed at slow speed and in total silence."

While the shape and behaviour of this object are quite "classic," its manoeuvres (zigzagging, reversing, and "yoyo" type of movement) are also comparable to other reports already published. On the other hand, the total duration of this sighting is remarkable. It was 11.30 p.m. when the witnesses watched it finally disappear behind the mountain ridges, and they had seen it first at 10.00 p.m.!

We would point out that we were also able to establish the following "coincidence". On the day in question, Tuesday, November 19, 1974, there was a strike at the Television Company, and they were showing the same film – a "Western" – on both channels. Well now, between 10.00 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. (when the film ended) the TV picture was fogged by a continual "snow-storm effect," and the sound was disturbed by a loud noise like the throb of a motor-boat engine.

But this was not the last of the surprises that the area between the Gulf of Ajaccio and the Gulf of Valinco (Propriano) had in store for us.

(To be continued in Part 2 at a later date)

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